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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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JANUARY, 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher

301-304 Commonwealth Building, Fort Worth, Texas

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Vol. VII. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JANUARY, 1915 No. 1

With The Editor

Many of our older readers will be pleased to note the reappearance of Uncle George in this issue. His plea for the young collector will meet with the sympathy of all. There is no doubt whatever but that a great deal more might be done in his behalf than is being done at present. This should not be left entirely to the numismatic clubs who are already working in this direction. It is a work that every collector may take part in. Let all do something on these lines. If you know of any collector in your locality who is not a subscriber to the Monthly, send us his name and address, and we will forward a sample copy to him.

Elsewhere in this issue we print a news item in which it is reported that through the efforts of Congressman Ashbrook of Ohio, a special souvenir issue of McKinley gold dollars may be issued in the near future. We hope Mr. Ashbrook will be successful in having his bill passed. The profits from the sale of these dollars will go to a very commendable enterprise, and incidentally Numismatics in general will profit, as it always does when it receives a little general publicity.

Congressman Ashbrook, by the way, is a member of the American Numismatic Association, having served on the Board of Governors. It was mainly due to his efforts the granting of the federal charter to the Association.

Speaking of the American Numismatic Association and the good of Numismatics, did it ever occur to you, Mr. Collector, how much you can enhance the value of your own collection by the addition of a few more collectors? There are among your friends a number who may be easily interested in Numismatics if only properly approached. Every new collector added to the rank of collectors means not only added prestige for our science but added value to your own numismatic holdings. A membership in the American Numismatic Association or a subscription to this magazine for only 50 cents a year is a good way to start. Send us the name of your friend to whom we may send a copy of this publication.

And if you yourself receive this as a sample copy, don't you think it worth while to support it at 50 cents a year?

French "Emergency" Notes

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By M. SORENSEN.

Anyone who recently has had occasion to pass "Hotel de Monnaies," the French mint in Paris, will have noticed an unusual activity around that imposing building. Men and women—mostly women—are passing in and out through its gilded wicker gate, and all carrying hand bags or small packages, securely tied and tightly grasped. It is the French people offering jewelry and tokens of gold to the mint at this sore hour of need. The people are showing their patriotism by turning over to the state all keepsakes of precious metal. At the mint these are weighed and tested, and if of the required fineness (916), are then paid for in crisp new treasury notes. And the gold accepted is struck into bright new coins to help pay the enormous war expenses.

FRENCH NECESSITY PAPER MONEY

The French people are noted for their great frugality and saving qualities, and the government is making great efforts to induce the people to bring out the proverbial stocking. Orders have gone out to every post office, savings bank and to every public office to receive and give exchange for all gold offered, and to send such gold to the Bank of France. It has required all Ribot's geniality to induce the hoarding French peasants to give up tucked away louisdores. But it is evident that Ribot knows his people. Anyone turning over to the state 10 francs in gold gets—besides a new 10 franc bill, if he do not prefer a "bon nationale"—an artistically executed certificate of receipt to the effect that Monsier N. N. on such a day and date exchanged ten (10) francs in gold "pour la defense nationale." Ribot understands how to appeal to the people's pride and patriotism. "La Patria" demands all, when the nation's liberty is at hazard. The precious gold coins are turned over to the government for crisp new currency and in addition a fine, showy certificate, which is promptly framed and hung on the wall, where it will bear witness to children and descendants that in the troublesome year of 1915 did N. N. his duty to his country.

The paper recites numerous cases of poor people contributing out of their scant means to the nation's funds. One paper tells of a poor family contribut-

ing 2 louisdores, laid by three years ago on little Mimi's christening day. Another tells of a lonely "poilu," now doing service in the trenches, sending a 10 franc piece he had carried on his bosom for 14 months. Or it is a poor nobleman from the country sending the treasury 30 gold pieces of 100 francs each, which had been kept in the family vault for nearly a hundred years. Cities try to overdo one another in sending the largest amounts of gold coin. One thousand, six hundred and twenty-seven citizens of Rheims have since August, 1914, sent Bank of France the snug sum of 3,298,000 francs.

By issuing domestic bonds it has been possible for Ribot to raise loans at home, amounting to upward of 2500 million francs. These bonds are redeemable in 3, 6 and 12 months; the 3 months bonds bearing 4 per cent interest, the others 5 per cent. They were at first issued in denominations of 100, 500, 1,000 and 10,000 francs; but a short time ago it was decided to issue them in denominations as low as 5 francs, so even the laborer could buy one of them.

BELGIAN ZINC COINS STRUCK BY ORDER OF THE GERMAN MILITARY GOVERNOR

As in other European countries did gold and silver coins disappear from circulation in France; even the coppers vanished. Instead is circulating new currency, and city governments throughout France are issuing script—bon communale—in denominations of 5, 2 and 1 francs, 50 and 25 centimes. The scarcity of small change has been so great that employers have been unable to get the necessary change to pay laborers, or that a newspaper woman was unable to change a 1 franc piece.

This scarcity of subsidiary coins in France is, however, not caused by the war alone, but in some measure by the extraordinary conditions existing in that country. When the war broke out, Bank of France had 71 millions in subsidiary coins, silver and copper, and during the first 12 months of the war 40 millions more were struck at the mint, in all 111 millions, of which 88 millions have been put in circulation—as large an emission as was dared and deemed advisable. Many officials and laborers of the mint were sent to the

front. And when, in September, 1914, the enemy threatened Paris, the mint was removed from the capital to Castelsomazin. And just previously France had decided to change from copper to nickel for subsidiary coins. Of these new nickel coins only a few had been struck, and collectors secured most of them, so the scarcity was not relieved to any extent. A few millions of 2 franc silver pieces have been struck lately.

The Latin Monetary Union has decided that no country belonging to that union can issue more than 60 centimes worth of subsidiary coins a year per inhabitant. If a country do not issue the allowed amount one year, it may do so the next, or later. For some years previous to the war France had not made use of its privileges, but had issued small coins for approximately 9 million francs a year. Now orders have been issued to at once coin 4 million francs worth of subsidiary coins.

At the present time there is a scarcity of sibsidiary coins all over Europe, even in the neutral countries. Some of the warring countries are in need of the necessary metal. Russia is using postage stamps for small change. Germany is experimenting with iron and zinc 5 pfennig pieces, while Belgium already has a full set of subsidiary coins struck in zinc, by order of the German military governor.

Cuba Banishes Money of Foreign Nations

Havana, Cuba, Dec. 7.—For the first time in years Cuba is free of the annoyance and confusion resulting from the general circulation of various kinds of foreign money. On November 1 there went into effect President Manocals' decree declaring illegal the circulation of any but American and Cuban money. In anticipation of this decree taking effect, foreign coins have already disappeared almost entirely from circulation, only a few Spanish dollars being accepted in some of the smaller shops at a heavy discount, the bulk of the silver and gold having been shipped back to Spain.

When the United States undertook the occupation of Cuba, American money was declared to be the official currency, but together with this a vast quantity of Spanish gold and silver and some French gold remained in circulation, varying in value in comparison to official money from day to day, nominally in accordance with the laws of the supply and demand, but actually in response to manipulation by the hundreds of money changers whose little shops are scattered all over Havana.

Recently a large volume of Cuban silver and gold has been placed in circulation and declared to be official money on par with American currency, and, by the president's decree, this and the American money will henceforward be the only currency recognized in Cuba. This will remove a constant source of irritation to tourists who have heretofore had to deal with half a dozen kinds of currency. The only opposition to the new state of affairs has come from a few Spanish merchants and the money changers whose means of livelihood has disappeared. Incidentally it is interesting that some of the Spanish merchants have shown a disposition to prefer American gold coins to American notes, professing a fear that should the United States become involved in war the notes would suffer depreciation.

Painting Relating to Our First Coinage

Through the kindness of Mr. Frank H. Stewart, we have received a print of the beautiful painting relating to our first coinage.

Special credit is due to Mr. Stewart of the Stewart Electric Co., of Philadelphia, owners of the site of the first U. S. mint, for his interest in the history of our first mint.

Through Mr. Stewart's efforts he has had produced another beautiful painting entitled "Inspection of the First Coins of the First United States Mint." It is the work of the artist, Mr. John Ward Dunsmore of New York, and is owned by Mr. Frank H. Stewart.

The first coins made in the first United States Mint were coined from silver bullion delivered by Washington, and on one side portrayed a likeness of Martha Washington. Free coinage of silver prevailed in those days; the coins were given to Washington and distributed by him and have been known ever since as Washington half dismes. They are today quite rare and found only in numismatic collections. Washington referred to them in his 1792 address to Congress as follows: "There has been a small **beginning** in coinage of half dismes, the want of small coins in circulation calling the **first** attention to them."

The persons represented in the picture are General and Martha Washington, Alexander Hamilton and Mrs. Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, David Rittenhouse, Tobias Lear, Adam Eckfeldt, Henry Voight and another workman. The chair in front of Mrs. Hamilton and the hand-screw coin press, operated by Eckfeldt, are still in existence at the present Philadelphia Mint. Examination of the picture will show a Rittenhouse clock, sketch of head used on the first silver half dismes, household silver for coinage purposes, glowing fireplace, weighing scales, rolling machine, and overhead shafting operated by horse power outside of the building.

The room is the first floor of the coinage building, which was the middle building of the three shown in Ye Olde Mint picture, now framed by so many recipients of that wonderful print. This was the only picture ever made of the first United States Mint Buildings, the coinage building being the first building erected by authority of Congress for a public purpose, under the direction of Washington. The Mint proposition was almost a "hobby" with Washington. He visited it frequently, referred to it in many personal letters and in nearly all of his annual addresses to Congress. His account book shows the gift of five dollars to a Mint workman.

Rittenhouse, holding the coin for inspection, was the first Director of the Mint and lived a stone's throw away from it. Colonel Lear, standing behind Washington, was Washington's private secretary and mentioned in some of Washington's letters concerning the Mint. Hamilton was Secretary of the Treasury and Jefferson was Secretary of State, both of whom were intensely interested in the establishment of the first Mint. Adam Eckfeldt was an employee of the Mint and afterward chief coiner, succeeding Henry Voight, who is shown holding the tray of coins. Voight was a clockmaker associated with Rittenhouse, and also helped Fitch build the first steamboat in America. Eckfeldt, like Voight, went with the Mint in 1792, as is shown by testimony given

by him in a lawsuit over the Mint alleys half a century later. After the lapse of over one hundred and twenty-three years, there is still an Eckfeldt in the Philadelphia Mint.

Frank H. Stewart, the president and founder of the Stewart Electric Company, has for several years spent much time in uncovering the lost history of early Philadelphia, and the inspiration for this painting was furnished by him and executed by Dunsmore, who is also historically inclined.

The original painting will be placed on exhibition January 1, 1916, in the offices of the Frank H. Stewart Electric Company, 37 and 39 North Seventh street, Philadelphia, in the new building located on the site of the first United States Mint.

The Proposed Dollar of M'Kinley

Coinage of Souvenir Coins Approved by Treasury Department.

The coinage of 100,000 William McKinley souvenir dollars to help defray the cost of constructing the memorial to the last president at Niles, has been approved by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Comptroller of the Currency Williams, according to a dispatch from Washington.

The plan for the coinage of the souvenir coins was embodied in a bill introduced by Congressman Ashbrook.

The dollars when coined are to be turned over to the McKinley Birthplace Memorial Association, which is to fix a sale price of $2 for every $1.

The government will receive face value and will make $50,000, as each dollar contains about 50 cents' worth of silver.

The Birthplace Association will make $100,000, and thus both government and association will share in the profit. Ashbrook has made a canvass of members of the house and says he is confident the bill will pass that body promptly.

Electro-Photography of Coins or Medals

According to Electrotech. u. Maschinenbau, photographic negatives of coins, or similar objects, can be readily obtained by the following method: An ordinary photographic plate is placed film side up on a sheet of metal; the object to be photographed is then placed in contact with the emulsion. Wires from the poles of a high-tension transformer giving a minimum p.d. of 5,000 volts are connected with the coin and metal plate, respectively. The explanation of the results obtained appears to be that a glow discharge occurs between the two metallic disks, which are separated by the glass of the photographic plate, and that the generation of ultra-violet rays accompanies this discharge. These rays decompose the silver bromide. Those parts nearest are subjected to strongest action, and vice versa, hence a half-tone image results.—Scientific American.

A Plea for the Young Collector

By "UNCLE GEORGE."

It was Topsy who on being asked where she was born and who were her parents, replied: "I'se got no parents and was never born, I'se just grown up."

As far as coin collecting goes, this is the experience of most collectors. They have just grown up; they have had some time growing up, too. I wonder if anyone reading this has ever taken an interest in a young collector, and tried to give him a helping hand. When I say—giving a helping hand, I do not mean unloading your discards and cheap duplicates on to him—but giving him the benefit of your own experience and showing him how to avoid the errors you made in the past.

Only recently I was speaking on this subject to a collector with many years' experience, and I asked him if he had ever made any attempt to help a young collector on these lines. His reply was: "No, George, I had to pay dearly for my own experience; let others pay for theirs." That is one way of looking at the question, but it is hardly the correct one. My friend is some collector and I do quite a bit of exchanging with him, but he is really rather unreasonable at times. He actually wants, even in a friendly exchange, something nearly equal in value to what he is offering.

Most of you know this sort of man and how difficult it is to do any business with him. You must accept his ideas of value and rarity—though of course yours are undoubtedly the most correct. His coins will be pure gold while yours are nothing but common brass.

But to get back to the young collector and the best way to help him—not yourself. In some of the churches and societies there is what is called "the big brother" movement. The idea is that the young and new members shall each be placed under the friendly care of an older and more experienced one, whose duty shall be to look after and help in every possible way—in fact to act the real big brother's part to the one entrusted to his care. This is one of the things wanted in numismatics. Today there seems to be no provision made for the novice. He is simply left to grow up, and the chances are he soon falls by the wayside and the only mourner is the local dealer.

You all know the local dealer; sometimes he sells old curios and second-hand books. In his store window you see a cracked plate full of copper coins, and a card informs you that you may take your choice for a dime. His more valuable stock is kept out of sight until he can find out its utmost possible value. His method of obtaining the information desired is simplicity itself and worthy of the most skilled European diplomat. He will remark to some one he considers better posted on coin values than he is himself: "A man was in here yesterday and tried to sell me an Elizabeth crown, but he wanted fifteen dollars for it. I did not buy it, as I thought he asked too much. Don't you think he did?" The collector, rather proud of being considered an authority, replies that he would not think of giving more than twelve dollars for it, and Mr. Dealer says to himself: "Well, if Jones would give twelve dollars for that crown it must be worth eighteen or twenty," and asks that amount for it. Most of you have met this kind of man and assisted in his education. Why not rather help to educate the young collector? The older

collector is on his guard, and as a rule his knowledge of coin values is superior to that of this class of dealer. But what chance has the novice with this man? As much as a snowball in Texas.

There is of course the chance that the young collector is in earnest, and is fortunate enough to get acquainted with some more or less advanced and experienced collector who advises him to join the A. N. A. He forwards his little three dollars with some reluctance, thinking regretfully of the coins it would have purchased, and in due time his application is recorded in the official organ, and then the time of his life begins.

He is at once flooded with circulars and fixed price catalogues from all parts of the country, and these are followed by catalogues of auction sales containing more coins than he had ever imagined were left in the world, metal enough indeed to carry on the European war to the bitter and inevitable end. Of course he falls an easy victim, and as he bases his bids on the prices he has paid in the past, his advent into this field causes a sensation, and fresh records are created that fill the heart of the cataloguer with joy. And collectors more experienced realize that another bull has broken into the china store. This does not last forever, though, and after bidding on a few sales he gives up all idea of cornering the coin supply and forming a trust. The lesson has been learnt, but at what a cost.

This is where the big brother movement might come in and do real service for the young collector and the cause of Numismatics. The boys of today are the men of tomorrow. The different numismatic societies and clubs of this country might do some good if they would make an effort, and do a little educational work for the benefit of the younger collectors. Let them have an occasional open meeting, and through the daily press extend invitations to those interested in the subject. I make no claim to be especially well fitted to hand out good advice on this subject. I am not a member of any numismatic club, nor have I ever attended a convention. But I have proposed several for membership—and the majority continue in the same even to this day. If any young collector yearns for some really good advice let him apply, through the Editor, to

UNCLE GEORGE.

Nicaragua Paper Currency is Now Worth Real Coin

Managua, Nicaragua, Dec. 9.—The monetary conversion of Nicaragua, by which a mass of paper money with nothing behind it save the impaired credit of the government has been converted into a currency backed by a golden reserve, was completed on October 31, by the expiration of the time in which to change the old paper into the new money.

The conversion was begun in a preliminary way in 1911 by the provisional government which succeeded the regimes of Zelaya and of Madriz, the president whom Zelaya left when he fled. It was entered into actively in 1912, was interrupted and set back a year by the fierce revolution of that year, was resumed in 1913, and although retarded by the business depression that fell upon the country was making fair headway in 1914 when it was again set back by the European war. Notwithstanding these obstacles the present gov-

ernment, which succeeded the provisional officials after the elections of 1912, has steadily kept at it and now consummates its plan, much to the benefit of business, commerce and industries.

When President Zelaya, who kept himself in power and dictated Nicaragua for seventeen years, from 1893 to 1909, first assumed office, there was a silver currency. During his first eight years he left it alone, issuing but small amount of paper. In 1901 and 1902 he issued 5,200,624 pesos in paper currency and the country at once went from a silver to a paper basis, the gold exchange falling from the silver rate of 2.08 in 1900 to a fluctuating rate of 5 to 6 in 1902 and 7 to 8 in 1903. No further paper issues were made for some years, in fact some was retired, the exchange rate falling to 5.50 or 6.

His last two years, 1908 and 1909, were turbulent and revolutionary. Over three million pesos more paper were issued, the rate jumping to 9. His temporary successor, Dr. Madriz, found no money and a first class revolution. He issued 15,000,000 pesos. The revolutionary government who gained possession in September, 1910, had no money and at first no revenues and issued 24,000,000 during 1911 to pay the expenses of their revolution and other things. The rate fluctuated from 12 to 22, averaging 16.

Then they began the monetary conversion. The services of the late Charles A. Conant, of New York, and F. C. Harrison, of London, late treasurer-general of India, two of the best experts in America and England, were secured to devise the reform. A group of New York bankers were interested through the state department on invitation of Nicaragua, and financed the conversion. It cost Nicaragua approximately two millions besides much financial distress at times, but though often bitterly discouraged the government stuck to it, as they wanted to get their country on a sound money basis, and now they reap their reward.

The new money, of which the cordoba is the standard, equal to an American dollar in value, went into force March 23, 1913. The gold reserve is kept in New York. All went well, exchange remaining at par, until the war in Europe broke out. Then frightened unduly as it has since turned out, but along with the rest of the world, the government passed a moratorium law and the sale of gold exchange stopped. Cordoba went to a discount, as first of five to eight points. Then, assisted by local speculators who wanted to return to the halycon days of wild fluctuations, cordobas fell and rose, and fell again, at one time reaching 25 per cent discount. Early this year the favorable reaction set in, assisted by one of the local banks, and the cordoba has gradually risen till now, coincident with the conversion of the last of the old paper money, it is practically at par again, and the government and the banks say it will be maintained there at all cost.

Considering the effects of the war on finances, and that it cut Nicaraguan commerce into half, and also considering what has happened to the pound sterling and the money standards of Europe, Nicaragua's feat of bringing its money to par is very creditable. It has had good financial advice and assistance, and has preserved. It should be the first step towards a revival of its commerce and business. The retirement of the last of the paper currency and bringing the new cordoba back to par is hailed as a financial feat. President Diaz and Minister of Finance Cuadra are naturally much elated.

Obituary

Major Richard Lambert Died in New Orleans.

We have received word advising us that Major Richard Lambert died on December 5th, 1915, in New Orleans. While Major Lambert was in his eighty-eighth year at the time of his death, but until very recently he enjoyed vigorous health and personally supervised the duties of the many important offices he held.

MAJOR RICHARD LAMBERT

Major Lambert was born in Dublin in 1828. He came to this country while still a lad and has resided in New Orleans for the past seventy odd years. He was a veteran of both the Mexican and Civil wars, having served with distinction in both. Major Lambert was very prominent in Masonic affairs, being one of the most widely known Masons in the country. For more than fifty years he has been associated with the Masonic order, in which he has been highly honored, having been conferred with the highest degree of the order, that of the 33rd.

For upward of thirty-five years he has served as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana and Secretary of all Masonic bodies of New Orleans and Recorder and Representative to the Imperial Council for the Jerusalem Temple of Shriners.

In numismatics, Major Lambert was especially interested in the series of the United States and historical foreign coins. His collection of Masonic medals and tokens is undoubtedly the most complete in existence. During his numismatic experience, which extended for over fifty years, he formed several different collections. He would dispose of one collection and almost immediately begin forming another. His last three collections were sold in New York in 1906, another by Mr. S. H. Chapman in 1910 and one by B. Max Mehl in 1914.

The Life of a Dollar Bill

A statistician who hangs around the national strong-box figures out that the average life of a dollar bill is three weeks, but he doesn't reveal the secret of this prodigious prolongation of life.

The dollar bills with which most of us are familiar expire in a few minutes, or at best a few hours. Compared with the average dollar bill the morning glory is a marvel of longevity. The tender infant—maybe that's why it's called legal tender—hardly comes into your hands ere it becomes an adult, and almost before you know it the blasted and withered veteran has passed to the bourne of memory. We mourn many a Sweet William which, for its tender brief existence, might be said to have perished at birth, and many another whose untimely end in the morning of life caused bitter grief.

A statistician who could show us how to keep a dollar bill alive three weeks at a time like this, when the mortality is so heavy, generally speaking, would earn the gratitude and admiration of the community. A statistician who could really keep a dollar, dead or alive, for such a time would tempt many of us to become statisticians if possible. But the sad truth is that a statistician does it only on paper.—New York World.

Silver Scarce in London

London, Dec. 17.—The substitution of silver for gold coin, following the withdrawal of gold and the issue of paper money in its place, has caused a serious shortage of silver here. Banks are still able to obtain silver in moderate amounts from the Bank of England, but it is growing scarce.

Peru's New Coinage Law in Effect

Lima, Peru, Dec. 15.—The Peruvian government has issued a decree putting into effect the new coinage law.

The law provides for government coinage of 200,000 sols ($100,000), monthly in fractional silver coin, and permits making of coin for use as money by private persons at a small charge for the coinage.

It also restricts the percentage of silver in relation to paper which may be held in bank vaults and forbids exchange of notes for silver at a premium on the coin.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held at the Park Avenue Hotel on December 10, 1915, president Smith presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Adams, Beesley, Belden, Boyd, Davidson, Elder, Frey, Guttag, Heaton, Kennedy, Kohler, Nangle, Proskey, Reilly, Schulmann, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood and Wormser.

After the roll call, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter of greetings and thanks for the Smith medal from corresponding member Lanfranco, which was read, and and also a communication from M. B. Decker on a business proposition. He also announced the receipt of the sad news of the death of Member Niklewicz.

Mr. Proskey, by way of a report of the New York Store Card committee, showed a very large store card of John Matthews' Soda Water concern.

The Curator, Mr. Higgins, was unable to be present, as he was engaged in delivering a lecture at Columbia University on the subject of Numismatics.

The election of officers was next in order, and the chair requested further nominations from the floor. Mr. Boyd re-nominated President Elliott Smith for the presidency, which, however, was declined by Mr. Smith. Mr. Frey then nominated Mr. Smith as Chairman of the Executive Committee, which was also declined by Mr. Smith, but finally upon the urging of several other members, Mr. Smith consented to accept the nomination, and upon motion duly made, it was voted that it was the unanimous consensus of opinion that Mr. Smith accept the nomination as Chairman of the Executive Committee.

There being no other nominations before the meeting, the motion was duly made that the Secretary cast one ballot for the unanimous choice of all the officers nominated excepting the three members of the Executive Committee, other than its Chairman. The Secretary therefore reported the unanimous elections of the following officers:

For President—F. C. C. Boyd.
For Vice President—A. R. Frey.
For Secretary and Treasurer—M. Wormser.
For Executive Committee—Elliott Smith, Chairman.
For Membership Committee—D. R. Kennedy, R. Kohler, W. Raymond, Elliott Smith, D. Proskey.
For Publication Committee—E. H. Adams, D. W. Valentine, H. Wood.
For Medallic Art Committee—J. M. Swanson, E. T. Newell, A. C. Heaton, J. de Lagerberg, D. Proskey.

Both Messrs. Frey, seven times a Vice President, and President Smith extended their heartiest congratulations to Mr. Boyd upon his election to the presidency, and Mr. Smith resigned the chair in favor of Mr. Boyd.

Mr. Boyd as a parting gift, and a token of esteem to President Smith, handed him a placque on which were mounted the three obverses of the Higgins, Heaton and Smith Medals, and the common reverses of all these three medals, which ex-President Smith accepted with expressions of gratitude.

Messrs. Kohler and Nangle were appointed tellers to proceed with the election of the three remaining members of the Executive Committe, and Messrs. Swanson, Valentine and Elder were duly elected.

Mr. Smith withdrew from his election on the Membership Committee, Mr. Adams being unanimously elected in his place.

Upon motion of Mr. Belden, the Secretary was instructed to formulate a letter of condolince to be sent to Mrs. Niklewicz, expressing the corrow of the Club over the death of Member Niklewicz, and a copy of this letter was voted to be recorded on the Minutes of the Club.

The subject announced for the next meeting will be an exhibition by members of any nickel coins of the world, outside of the United States, which they may have in their collection.

President, Mr. Boyd then welcomed those members who had not been frequent in attendance, especially Mr. Schulmann, Mr. Davidson and Mr. Guttag. Mr. Schulmann expressed his great pleasure at being present at the Club within the second time during a year.

Mr. Proskey referred to the newly issued money in use by the convicts at Sing Sing, consisting of currency from one to fifty cents in brass and aluminum and higher values in paper money. This money has real purchasing power and at the expiration of the convict's sentencee can be changed into United States money.

Mr. Belden reported the part which several Numismatists played in the unveiling of the statue of Joan of Arc which took place at New York on December 6th, Mr. Saltus having been the honorary President of the Association, and having been awarded the Cross of the Legion of Honor. All guests attending the unveiling received a shield-shaped medal which shows the Coat of Arms of Joan of Arc and the date of the unveiling on the reverse.

The following were the exhibits of the evening:

By Mr. Smith: A French satyrical silver medal struck upon the peace between France and the Algerian pirates, 1689.

By Mr. Guttag: Austria 10 Heller, 1915. Finland Bank note for one mark, 1915. National Bank of South Africa, Johannesburg, one pound note, September, 1914.

By Mr. Kohler: Ducates of Nuremburg, 1649, and Hamburg, 1871.

By Mr. Wood: Thirty different moneys of the Mexican Revolution, among them a 1914 and 1915 double Peso of Zapata. A number of five and ten centavos paper currency of Carranza and Villa. The "Muera Huerta" Peso struck at Durango. Some of these coins were struck, some cast.

By Mr. Schulmann: Four large gold pieces. A medal struck by Charles II of Spain and his mother, Maria Anna as Regent, which was given to Princes upon the occasion of Charles' coronation. This is the only one known. Holland 10 Ducats, 1687. Teutonic Order 1611, ten ducats struck from Thaler die. Groningen ten Ducats, 1672, awarded only to three members of the corps of students taking part in the defense of the city, showing the Coat of Arms of Groningen with a Trophy of Arms, and on the reverse an inscription. Only three specimens in existence.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Copy of Resolution of Sympathy of New York Numismatic Club Upon Death of Mr. Niklewicz, Forwarded to Mrs. Niklewicz.

It is with the greatest sorrow that our Club has been advised of the recent death of Mr. Niklewicz, and in this hour of sorrow we wish to convey to you our assurance of our deepest sympathy in your loss, which everyone of our members feels deeply as a personal one.

In Mr. Niklewicz, we have lost a genial friend, a lovable and kindly companion, as well as an ardent and expert Numismatist, who was not merely an accumulator of coins, but who went deeply into our subject, below the surface of things, and combined with his love of collecting a thorough knowledge and a desire and willingness to impart this knowledge to others, thus proving himself a valuable member of our Club.

His aetivities in the field of our science were not merely passive, but constructive as well, and in addition to our keen personal loss, we sincerely deplore the loss which our science of Numismatics has suffered in the death of our member, Mr. Herbert Niklewicz.

By resolution of our Club, this expression of our sorrow and sympathy is ordered spread upon our Minutes.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Tuesday, December 21, 1915. The 90th meeting ealled to order by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. L. G. Amberg, Handler, Bostwick, Borradaile, Harold, Plumb, French, King, Woodbury, Bauer, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, Wild, Yawger.

Mr. King read a communication from Mr. Henry Chapman aeeepting the invitation to deliver an address at our annual dinner, January 18th, 1916. It was also voted to invite the ladies of the members to attend the dinner.

Mr. W. H. Amberg, Chairman of the Committee to confer with the Rochester Philatelic Association, reported that the Philatelic Assoeiation accepted the invitation to have a joint annual dinner.

Mr. King reported that the arrangements for the dinner are progressing nicely and promises to be a great success. It was moved and earried that a charge of $2.50 per plate should be made.

The dies of last year's medal, with portrait of Mr. Bauer, were presented to him with the compliments of the Association.

The Treasurer's report for 1915 was read by Mr. Merritt and showed the treasury in flourishing condition. The report was accepted and thanks extended to Mr. Merritt for his faithful service.

The Secretary's report showed an active membership of 37 and honorary of 5. The Library was considerably added to the past year with a good number of numismatic books.

Through the kindness of Dr. French, a number of very fine and uncirculated United States Cents were added to the collection of the Rochester Municipal Museum. Dr. French was tendered a vote of thanks.

The election of officers being next in order, Mr. L. G. Amberg, the retiring President expressed his thanks to the members for the support given him. His report showed that the year was a very successful one, both financially and otherwise. A vote of thanks was extended him for his strict attention to duty since his term of office, he not having missed a single meeting. The election of officers resulted as follows:

Mr. F. B. King, President,

Mr. F. E. Merritt, Vice President and Treasurer,

Mr. H. H. Yawger, Secretary.

Mr. King, the new President, thanked the members for the honor conferred upon him. He also suggested an invitation being extended to all of our out-of-town members and numismatic friends who might be able to attend the annual dinner on January 18th.

Meeting adjourned to January 4th, 1916.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

Varieties of U. S. One and Five Cent Pieces of Late Issue

The variations of the late issues of one and five cent pieces was brought to my attention through the catalog of a dealer who priced two 1909 Lincoln V. D. B. cents of the S. mint, one of which had the S. mint mark under the 0 of the date and the other had the S between the first 9 and the 0.

As a collector of the Cent series and being in the part of the country where the S mint mark is most frequently seen, I began a search for the above two varieties with remarkable results. The number of different varieties that I found before I finally got the ones I originally started out to find have made a very large collection for me, not only in the Lincoln head but the Indian head cents as well.

Before the year 1908 no copper coins were made at any of the branch mints, but in that year coinage of the Indian head cents was begun at San Francisco. The small S is found on the reverse under the bow of the wreath and there are different varieties with different locations of the mint mark in regard to its position in this space, in both the years 1908 and 1909. In all the mint marked series of the Lincoln Head cents the small S and also the mark of the Denver mint, coinage of which was begun in the year 1911, is found in many different locations, both close and distant to date and under the 9 or 1 or between them. Possibly every die that is made has the letters in a different position, and the only way to get a list of them would be from the Philadelphia mint, where they are made for the branch mints. I have written to them in this regard, but have not received any reply.

Another feature found on a number of the Lincoln cents is the outline of Lincoln's head on the reverse. This is found in every year and from all the mints. There are several issues, with die cracks on them, in circulation and are met with quite frequently.

The variations in the Indian Head cents will be found in the distance of date to point of bust and also to the border, sometimes close and distant in the same year. A comparison of two or more cents of the same year will prove this. Die breaks on this type are occasionally met with, mostly on the reverse, wreath to border. These variations extend back to 1859, the first year of general circulation of this type.

Passing from the one cent to the five cent pieces, my interest in them really begins in the year 1912. In this year the mint marks S and D first appear on the five cent piece. While the Philadelphia coins have no variations to amount to anything, the branch mint coins have a considerable number. Die breaks make up the largest part of the different varieties, while there are different positions of the small mint marks on the reverse, same as in the branch mint cents. The 1912 San Francisco nickels are somewhat rare, being

coined only four days in the last part of December. The hardness of the metal broke several sets of dies. Nearly every specimen met with in circulation has one or more die breaks on them, and I have one specimen in my collection that has six cracks from the border into the coin on the reverse.

The largest number of varieties is found in the Buffalo type of 1913 and later, and form a very interesting study. The most notable feature of this type is the impression of the angle of the Indian's neck and chin in the motto "E Pluribus Unum" on the reverse, the point touching the buffalo's back. On these specimens some of the letters of the motto are found under the Indian's chin. This angle is found in a number of different positions and some specimens show two angles through the motto. These are found in all mints and dates of this type. Die cracks are found on these coins, and some extend nearly across the coin. As in other coins of the branch mints, the D and S are differently located.

I have been collecting the five cent pieces from 1912 to date and keep them in numbered compartments on a tray, and a description of each specimen, its die cracks and so forth in a book, according to number on tray. A good magnifying glass will be found an excellent help in the study of all kinds of coins, as it brings out features which are not readily seen by the naked eye.

E. H. M.

Cents of 'Seventy-Seven

A Mathematician Finds Them Rare Visitors of the Pocket.

Herewith find observations on the humble bronze cent bearing date 1877: Noticing that date formed a very small proportion of the dates to be found in a handful of pennies, it occured to me to start a memorandum record. So in 1881 I began with 1,250 procured from the bank and found six dated 1877, showing that in the general circulation it then constituted .0048 of the output. In 1883, when the number examined had reached 2,950, eleven of the date had appeared, equivalent to .0037. In May, 1884, 7,500 had yielded twenty-four, .0032. An intermission then took place, and on February 10, 1896, 10,100 had returned only twenty-four, not one having been found in the additional lot, or .0023. The final entry, November 27, 1897, brought the total to 28,450, with thirty-five of 1877, .0012.

The foregoing shows in a striking manner how the 1877 date in sixteen years had moved toward the vanishing point. What it is today I do not know. I believe, however, that it would take a very long day's work to secure even one out of a batch of ten thousand. The measure of its value would be the value of the seeker's time, surely not less than $1 a day. And yet you may have an 1877 cent among your change at this moment.

—Hartford Times.

CUBA BARS GOLD COINS

The circulation in Cuba of Spanish silver and copper money has been prohibited, by executive order, and the importation and circulation of centimes and louis, Spanish and French gold coins is also stopped by the same order. Foreign moneys of silver or coppers are barred, with the exception of those of the United States.

A.Feld
6/10/6
#31-20
E

Rose Guinea

1773

GEORGE III.

Laureated Bust to Right.

Reverse, Rose Shield, Crowned.

Fine.

Very scarce.

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St. Gaudens

$20 Gold

1907, the first issue.

High relief, wire edge.

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Uncirculated.

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1795, First year of issue, very fine	$19.00
1804, Large double date	8.25
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1834, No motto, fine	5.25
1835	5.40
1836, Extra fine	6.00

Coin Cabinet

SOLID OAK

18 inches wide
26 inches high
13 inches deep

Sixteen drawers, 3-8 inch deep
Double knobs and double doors

New Condition

Price, $15.00

(Cost about $25.00 to make)

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NUMISMATIST
FORT WORTH - - - - - - TEXAS

Specials in Coins

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Set of foreign silver dollars from countries now at war, Germany, Russia, England, France, Italy, all in fine condition and mostly old dates. The complete set 6.00

The same set but half dollar size, the five coins 3.00

The same set but quarter dollar size, the five coins 1.50

Foreign copper coins, representing practically all European countries; many scarce, all nice, no junk, the lot of 20 all different 50

U. S. Trade Dollar, the heaviest U. S. Dollar; special, each 95

SMALL WHOLESALE LOTS.

U. S. Nickel cents, 1857 to 1864, Flying eagles and Indian heads, 20 pieces for only 75

U. S. Two-Cent pieces, the first coin with motto, 25 pieces for 1.00

U. S. Three-Cent pieces, nickel, coined 1865 to 1889, 25 pieces for $1.10 or 50 pieces for 2.00

Half Dimes, coined from 1837 to 1873, each 15c; 25 pieces for only 3c premium or the 25 for only 2.00

U. S. Half Dollars, lettered edges, dated before 1837, each 80c, or lot of ten pieces for only 6.00

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Bronze Medal, size of U. S. silver dollar, each 30

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Both are the same beautiful designs and made at the U. S. Mint.

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B. MAX MEHL

FORT WORTH, NUMISMATIST, TEXAS.

VOLUME VII.

NUMBER 2
WHOLE NUMBER 74

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION

IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR

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FEBRUARY, 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. MAX MEHL

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

An Interesting Excerpt

In my last sale, I sold some coins for a well known Rochester numismatist.

After he received the returns from me, here is what he wrote me--unsolicited:

"My dear Mr. Mehl,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of check in payment for my coins in your sale of Nov. 23rd, for which I thank you. I think they brought good prices. I might say more, but will not, as you are such a good advertiser you might get my name in print. I have more coins to send you for your next sale."

Being a "fine advertiser" is not alone sufficient for SUCCESS. Advertisements to be successful must be backed by not only honesty,-but by Ability, Financial Responsibility AND Honesty.

I solicit your patronage on the broad grounds of deserving it.

ALWAYS HAPPY TO SERVE YOU. WRITE ME.

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, - - TEXAS

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher

301-304 Commonwealth Building, Fort Worth, Texas

Subscription Price in United States and Canada, 50 cents a year; Foreign $1.00

Vol. VII. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, FEBRUARY, 1916 No. 2

With The Editor

Judging from the numerous comments received, the "Plea for the Young Collector," by Uncle George, in the January Numismatic Monthly, seems to have struck a responsive chord among many of our readers.

Among the many remarks received is one from Prof. H. L. Hutt of Canada which expresses the purposes of our efforts with the Numismatic Monthly. Prof. Hutt writes as follows:

> "I enclose herewith fifty cents for renewal. In doing so, I wish to say that I appreciate very much the 'Monthly,' and have enjoyed particularly the humor and sound sense in Uncle George's contribution.
>
> "Acting upon the suggestion in your editorial regarding the new members, I am enclosing herewith a list of a number of amateur collectors whom I have met at various times in my travels, who might have become scientific collectors if they had had someone like Uncle George to lead them on.
>
> "Wishing you all success," H. L. HUTT.

We will gladly go to the expense of sending free catalogues and sample copies of the Numismatic Monthly to any names you may send us. The increase of number of collectors means the advance of Numismatics, which incidentally will revert to your own benefit in the increased value of your collection.

Uncle George in this issue has something to say about auction sales and cataloguers that should be of interest to many collectors. It should be understood that he is expressing his own opinions, and that publication of them does not necessarily imply that we endorse everything he says.

What changes are coming in the coinage of the European countries now engaged in war is hard to say. But after peace is declared there are sure to be many that will be of great interest to us. Numismatics in Europe will suffer for years to come, and doubtless we shall feel it also. One result will be that North and South America will be more closely united in business and numismatics. The time is coming when collectors of "Americana" will cover

both South and Central American issues as well as those of the North. Many of these pieces are scarce now and promise to be much scarcer in the future.

The scarcity of copper is being felt in several European nations at present owing to its use for military purposes. It is interesting to remember that Spain has been furnishing copper to the Old World for several thousand years. One of her mines—the "Rio Tinto"—has been worked for over three thousand years, and still remains the principal source of supply for the Old World. Its annual production is about eighty million pounds, and it has ore reserves now blocked out sufficient to continue the present rate of production for seventy years.

The Belgian zinc coins struck by order of the German military governor, illustrated in our last issue, are attractive in appearance, but collectors will probably have difficulty in obtaining specimens at present. Coins in this metal are subject to a peculiar rust and when this has once started it seems impossible to stop its progress. No matter how or where kept, they will get worse every year. The St. Bernard issues of 1833 are peculiarly liable to this rust. If any collector knows of a remedy we should be pleased to hear of it and give it publicity.

One of the most appreciated changes in our coinage of recent years was the introduction of the Lincoln cent. It is safe to say that its educative value has been immense. Children of today know far more about Lincoln than those of a decade ago did. Why should not this good work be continued? We do not advocate a Presidential series of cents—though something might be said in favor of this. Coins are historical records. Why not use our cents to commemorate great incidents in our national life? If our cents had been used for this purpose during the past one hundred and twenty years, how much more interesting would their study be today. The Fugio cent commemorates the original thirteen States. If this idea had been continued, and as new States were admitted into the Union their entry been commemorated on the cents of that year, we should all of us know more of our country's history than we do today. Very few can tell off-hand the dates of admission into the Union of the States admitted during the past one hundred years.

"I sure enjoyed the January Numismatic Monthly, especially "A Plea for the Young Collector." I find through my own experience that Uncle George is quite right."

H. N. WALTON.

"Your Numismatic Monthly is every bit as you claim it to be. I read every issue thoroughly and enjoy the contents very much, as they are both interesting and instructive."

HOWARD GLEASER.

Stamps are Used as Coins in Russia

Because of the practical disappearance from circulation of small silver coins, of the denomination of ten, fifteen and twenty kopecks, stamps, similar to the ordinary postage variety, are being used in their place by the people of Russia.

The small silver coins which were plentiful a year ago now are practically gone from circulation. What has become of them is a question puzzling the authorities, but it is probable that they have been hoarded by the poorer classes, who fear the result of the war and who feel that they will be better provided for if they cling to the silver money.

Under the Russian monetary standard 100 kopecks are equal to a rouble, which in normal times is valued at 29 cents American money. Ordinarily, Now, however, a ruble is valued at 29 cents American money. Ordinarily, therefore, the 10 kopecks piece corresponds to the American 5-cent piece.

The stamps which have taken the place of the coins are a trifle larger than the American postage stamps, perforated, but not adhesive. The reverse side is of ordinary paper, in which is printed government authority for the acceptance of the stamp in place of a coin.

The 10 kopecks stamp is blue, the 15 kopecks stamp brown and the 20 kopecks stamp light green.

So strict are the Russians about their money, now that the war is on, that the authorities will allow no person to take from the country more than 500 roubles, which under the present rate of exchange approximates $150.

—N. Y. Herald.

To Melt Old Coins

Old Spanish and French coins to the value of $3,000,000 have arrived at the Philadelphia mint, to be transformed into current money for the republic of Cuba. Some of the coins are said to be more than 100 years old and to be of considerable value to numismatists.

While designs on the new gold coins will be after ideas of Cuban artists, the weight and fineness will be similar to the current gold pieces in the United States.

The gold came to New York on the Ward Line steamer Monterey, from Havana, and was sent to Philadelphia by rail as bonded merchandise from Cuba. The gold was packed in boxes containing about 200 pounds each and each box contained the French and Spanish coins indiscriminatly mixed. Customs Inspector Scott was detailed to watch the gold from the time it arrived in Philadelphia until it was delivered and receipted for at the Mint.

SCARCITY OF FRENCH COPPER COINS.

French newspapers chronicle a dearth in copper coin at Toulouse, which began some time ago and is becoming more and more stringent. Some well-informed persons say that this stringency has been brought about by Spaniards, many of whom live at Toulouse, who have been getting copper coin in quantity and have shipped it in casks into Spain, from which country it is said that it finds its way to Germany, the final destination being the foundries at Essen, where it is used in making munitions of war.

Auction Sales and Cataloguers

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By UNCLE GEORGE.

A friend said to me recently: "Well, I sent Blake a whole lot of bids for his sale, but I hope I shall not be stuck for many lots." Meeting him shortly after the sale, he told me he had only got two lots. "I cannot understand it," said he; "I sent a great number of bids and while the majority were low, some of them were reasonable." That's the trouble with Krank; he sends bids on coins he does not want unless they come at extremely low figures. He looks upon the auctioneer and cataloguer as a couple of numismatic Santa Claus—eager to fill his little stocking with good things, forgetting for the moment they have stockings of their own.

It is much better to send fair bids on some dozen lots you really want than to send absurdly low bids on one hundred lots. If you do not want the coin, do not bid on it. If you do want it, make a reasonably fair bid. If the dealers ask five dollars for it, do not make a seventy-five cent bid. Be a sport and make your bid four dollars at least.

Some cataloguers are courteous enough to write you, after having survived the shock of reading your bid sheet, and advise you to raise certain bids if you wish for the coins. I always appreciate this delicate attention, even if I do not follow their advice. Recently I sent two bids to a sale, one of twenty dollars—the other two and a half. In due time I received word that the first was expected to sell for from fifty to sixty dollars—the owner having paid seventy-five dollars for it, and the second it was thought would sell for twelve or fifteen dollars—it having a record two years ago of twenty.

That's the worst of records! As well hang a dog as give him a bad name. I admit my twenty-dollar bid was low, but I will do without it rather than pay much more. But my two and a half bid was reasonable, and I have since bought the coin in fine condition for three dollars. Anyone who pays twenty dollars for it pays four to six times what it is worth.

A good rule is to bid only on that which is of real interest to you, that you want; and then bid all you are willing to pay for it in the condition described. A cataloguer—if he is wise—will not overstate the condition of a coin; it is not good business to do so, and he is out for your business. Do not bid on a piece simply to see what it is like unless you mean to keep it if it comes to you. If you are interested in a sale get a priced catalogue. This will give you some idea what others are willing to pay for the coins you want, and the money is well invested. When one line in a catalogue is given to a single coin it is evident that the cataloguer considers it worth more than fifteen cents. The number of fifteen cent bids that are made on coins worth two dollars would surprise you.

Do not attempt to cover half the lots offered in a sale. You might not be able to pay for them if they came your way, or your wife might object to your doing so. Spring will soon be here, and she will want a new hat as well as you. Bid on as much as you will be able to pay for—and then there will be no occasion to send a lot back with the old chestnut excuse—"not as described."

I once knew a man—well, I can hardly call him a "man," who offered me some coins he had just got from Blank's sale. I asked him why he had bought

them. He replied, "I have not bought them—but I thought I could sell them; If I cannot I shall send them back and say they are "not as described.' There is room underground for a man like that. If you really do not know what to bid on a coin, write to the cataloguer and ask him. He is generally a gentleman and often has some knowledge of coins and their values. Do not run away with the idea that he is infallible and knows everything. I have even known one to make a mistake, though you may find this hard to believe.

The cataloguer's knowlerge of coins is general. A collector who is a specialist may know more of that series than he does. I wish cataloguers would refrain from describing the condition of a mixed lot as "Fair to fine." They should give the number of pieces in each condition—then the bidder would know what to expect.

One thing I have noticed, when a man loses his interest in auction sales, and no longer takes any pleasure in looking over catalogues of the same, his days as an active collector are numbered. To keep alive interest in your collection you must be constantly adding to it. Once come to a stop and you will soon lose all interest in it—and then—the end is in sight.

UNCLE GEORGE.

Early Chinese Coins

Haskell Oriental Museum at University of Chicago has recently been presented with a remarkable collection of coins by Mr. Jacob Speicher of Shanghai, China. Chinese coins, medals and amulets to the number of 844, arranged in historical sequence, are supplemented by coins of Annam and Korea, with a few from the old regime of Japan. Altogether, 1008 specimens are included. The donor was engaged in their collection during some twelve years in China. After being on exhibition for three or four years at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, they are now permanently located in Chicago. The value of the accession is much increased by the manuscript catalogue which Mr. Speicher has furnished with the collection.

Our adjective "pecuniary" still bears witness to the cattle which served Rome as measures of value. In China likewise, but far earlier, actual commodities had constituted the first medium of exchange. The Chinese, however, seem to have preferred metal objects, especially battle-axes and knives. As Government credit became established, it was found more convenient to coin small models of these utensils. The exhibit begins then with "battle-axe" coins, some of which date back traditionally to the period 2255-1122 B. C. Even with the adoption of a later date this would probably give China first place in the study of numismatics.

"Knife" coins form an interesting group. Their round handles with holes in the centre, two of which are distinguished by a square perforation, are supposed to have furnished the pattern for the round cash with square holes so regularly used later. Other peculiar shapes are "brige" and the pebble-like pellets called by the Chinese numismatists "ant" coins. All these oldest, most brittle copper specimens are mounted in hand-carved trays of camphor wood. The largest object in Mr. Speicher's collection is a magnificent medal with dragon decoration, bestowed as a reward for loyalty by the ruler Wu Tsung (1525 A. D.).

Fourth Annual Dinner of the Rochester Numismatic Association

The Fourth Annual Dinner of the Rochester Numismatic Association was held jointly with the Rochester Philatelic Association at the Hotel Rochester on Tuesday, January 18th, 1916.

A very pleasing variation was made this year by the presence of ladies and it added to the pleasure so much that it is thought the invitation will be repeated.

The guests began to arrive a little after six and there was much interest shown in the display of coins brought here by Mr. Henry Chapman of Philadelphia. This exhibit contained some of the rarest and unique "Early Coins of America" in existence, and in the opinion of all Numismatists present the collection of United States Cents was the finest ever exhibited here.

At 7 P. M. the guests entered the dining room, which was handsomely decorated with ferns and palms, where one large Speaker's Table with four small ones branching from it were arranged. The tables were elaborately decorated with smilax and red carnations, donated by our new President, Mr. F. B. King.

Much merriment was caused by the efforts of the guests to locate their places and after that was accomplished, the hymn "America" was sung, followed by the asking of the blessing by Dr. Zimmerman.

Then the guests were seated and the Fourth Annual Dinner was on. At each place was found the menu and a folder with parodies of the popular songs of the day, in each of which was found some hit on various visitors and members, and displayed much thought on the part of the originators. At the ladies' places were found several favors, viz., gold lorgnettes viewed through which life seemed rosy, birds that talked, paper caps, small beautiful boxes of candy in which were tiny mirrors with a Lincoln Cent embedded in the back and also pound boxes of candy donated by Mr. Chapman, for which he was given a standing vote of thanks by the ladies.

Molls Orchestra furnished music during the dinner and the songs were directed by Mr. Harry Barnhart and certainly were inspiring. Singing by a quartette and a solo by Mr. Barnhart were much enjoyed.

At the close of the dinner Dr. French gave a memoriam of Harry Earl Montgomery which was very touching, as Mr. Montgomery was the principal speaker at our dinner last year and whose sudden death was a great shock to the members of both the A. N. A. and the R. N. A. A silent toast was given to Mr. Montgomery's memory.

President King opened the festivities with a few personal hits and witty remarks, then introduced Mr. Andrew Ludolph, the inimitable toastmaster, who called on Dr. French to pay the rent. Dr. French extended to Mr. Horstman, Manager of the Hotel Rochester, the thanks of the Rochester Philatelic Association and the Rochester Numismatic Association for the use of the room for the past year.

The toastmaster then requested the Secretary to read letters of regret received, including those from Messrs. F. G. Duffield, Elmer S. Sears, Edgar H.

ROCHESTER NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION FOURTH ANNUAL DINNER

Adams, Waldo C. Moore, Dr. J. M. Henderson, S. Hudson Chapman, Wm. A. Ashbrook, A. Flag Robeson, C. F. Clarke & Co., Wayte Raymond and Wm. Hesslein.

A telegram which arrived during the evening was also read from B. Max Mehl wishing the Association continued success.

Mr. Koeb then exhibited an unfinished proof of the Fourth Anniversary Medal with Mr. Louis Amberg's portrait, which even in its unfinished state showed the handiwork of an artist.

"Hope" Putnam, Curator of the Rochester Municipal Museum, and member of the Rochester Numismatic Association, was called on for a few remarks in which he stated that he "hoped" to have some coins and stamps some day and perhaps some arrow heads in the collection. He has great hopes for the Numismatic Society but can't say as much for the stamp men. He hopes to have some new cases for coins and states that it is the intention to devote a whole room to numismatics, perhaps to join with the stamps, and if they are energetic will have one for each and hopes to have it within a year. He also stated that he is doing all he can for Numismatics and that the public shows an increasing interest in coins and thanked the Numismatists for the interest shown in the Society.

Dr. French then stated as Mr. Horstman was always trying to get him and the other members "in Dutch," that they decided to try to get even with him and get him "in Dutch," so on behalf of the members of the Rochester Numismatic Association and the Philatelic Association, presented him with a beautiful imported stein and hoped he would never see the bottom of it.

Mr. Horstman responded by saying that he wished he could express his thanks by smiling, as he did not know that he would be called on to say anything and thought it was unfair when his friend who writes his speeches was out of town.

At this point three large pictures were brought into the banquet hall, a donation to the Rochester Numismatic Association by Mr. Henry Chapman. One a picture of the first mint of the United States at Philadelphia, one an interior view of same mint with George Washington and friends assembled to view the first coin minted, which has been known ever since as "Washington half dime," one of which Mr. Chapman had on exhibit.

The third picture was one of the obverse and reverse of a Washington Medal. The colorings of the first two pictures were beautiful and all were framed in handsome frames.

A standing vote of thanks was given Mr. Chapman for this beautiful gift. A vote of thanks was also given Mr. Chapman for his kindness in bringing these coins to exhibit in connection with his address, "Early Coins of America."

The members were much pleased by the presence at the dinner of Mrs. Henry Chapman, of Philadelphia, and Mr. Howard Newcomb of Detroit, which shows the kindly feeling they have for the Rochester Numismatic Association.

The members were then favored by a speech from Dr. Zimmerman of the Syracuse University on the subject of "By-ways in Numismatics." Dr. Zimmerman told of many pleasant experiences he had had in this country and abroad when riding his favorite hobby.

Dr. Zimmerman is a very able and entertaining speaker and the time for him to catch his train came too soon. Dr. Zimmerman is the only man who instructs in Numismatics.

Mr. Henry Chapman then addressed the members on the subject of "Early Coins of America." The address showed a large amount of work involved in preparation, tracing down the history of coins described—and the most appreciative part was that nearly each piece mentioned was on exhibit.

A treat was given the members by the presence at the banquet of Mr. Joseph Hooper, the oldest known Numismatist, and one of the founders of the American Numismatic Association. Mr. Hooper will celebrate his 83rd birthday on February 19th next.

We also wish to give honorable mention to Messrs. Merritt and King, who were unceasing in their efforts and worked hard to make the dinner a success, and both of these gentlemen deserve a great deal of credit for the successful affair.

During the evening a photograph of the diners was taken, although in their opinion it was unnecessary, as the memory of the evening of January 18th, 1916, will be with them for some time to come.

Proof Coins

ALWAYS STRUCK FROM NEW AND SPECIALLY PREPARED DIES.

Proof coins have been struck at the Philadelphia mint for many years, but at no other mint, to be sold to collectors. A premium of about 10 per cent is charged when a lot includes coins of all denominations. For minor proof sets, however, when ordered separately, a little more than double the face value is charged.

The coins are struck from new and specially prepared dies on planchets previously burnished, a hand press instead of the regular steam press being used. When there is a smooth field around the raised portion of a coin, the burnishing gives the surface a lasting brilliancy that is very attractive.

Our silver coins still have such a field, but the gold coins, particularly the $5 and $2.50 pieces, and the minor coins no longer present this desirable feature. In fact, outside of the lines being a little finer, proofs of these coins differ little in appearance from pieces struck for regular circulation.

The incused inscriptions on the gold coins do not harmonize with the field as did the old raised inscriptions, while on the minor coins the field is not smooth, and the nickel has really no field, an excess of lettering disfiguring what is not monopolized by the Indian head and the buffalo. The $20 and $10 pieces present artistic designs, but proofs of these coins are far from being as attractive as were those of the old designs.

NEW GERMAN 5 PFENNIG COIN.

Through the kindness of Mr. Horace R. Wheeler, we have just seen one of the new German 5 Pfennig pieces struck in iron. It bears the usual German arms; Reverse, a large figure 5 in center; around, DEUTSCHES REICH; below, the word PFENNIG, 1915. Milled edge.

New York Numismatic Society

Regular meeting of the New York Numismatic Club was held at Park Avenue Hotel, Friday evening, January 14, 1916, President F. C. C. Boyd presiding.

The following members were present: Messrs. Beasley, Belden, Boyd, de Lagerberg, Frey, Heaton, Kohler, Newell, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood and Wormser.

After the calling of the roll, the Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved as read, with some slight corrections. The Secretary reported the receipt of three resignations.

The receipt of a note of thanks from Mrs. Niklewicz for our expression of sympathy; the receipt of a copy of "The Liberty Bell," published by the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California"; the receipt of one magazine and Mr. Heaton's number of the Nut Shell were announced. Also the receipt from the Joan-of-Arc Statue Committee, of which Dr. Kunz is President, of official documents in connection with the unveiling of the statue, consisting of the program, the medal given to those attending the unveiling and a fragment of stone from the dungeon of Joan-of-Arc in Rouen, France, and which forms the pedestal of the statue in New York; further, the receipt of Mr. Belden's "Medals and Publications of the American Numismatic Society with a Historical Sketch."

The Secretary reported upon the year's activities.

The Treasurer submitted his report for the year 1915.

Mr. Smith in behalf of the Executive Committee reported as the subject for the next meeting, "Tokens and Medals of Andrew Jackson," and also announced that a paper for the April meeting was in preparation by Mr. Newell.

The Membership Committee reported favorably two candidates for election. The Publication Committee announced that the issue of the year book had been postponed until the next meeting.

Mr. Swanson in behalf of the Medallic Art Committee reported that a medal was about to be issued for distribution by Gen. Carranza; ninety-nine to be issued in bronze and one in gold, although newspaper reports had very grossly exaggerated these figures.

In behalf of the Publicity Committee attention was called to a lecture to be given on the subject of "Numismatics the Science of Coins," by Mr. A. R. Frey of the New York Numismatic Club on January 20th at the Men's Club of the Roseville Presbyterian Church, Newark, N. J.

The President, Mr. F. C. C. Boyd, then announced the following appointments of Committees for the year 1916:

Committee on New U. S. Coinage: W. H. Woodin, Chairman; T. L. Elder, A. G. Heaton, J. M. Swanson, E. H. Adams, Dr. D. W. Valentine, Ed. T. Newell, D. Proskey.

New York Store Card Committee: E. H. Adams, Chairman; B. L. Belden, H. Wood, T. L. Elder, D. Proskey.

Publicity Committee: D. R. Kennedy, Chairman; T. L. Elder, E. Beasley.

Paper Money Committee: Dr. D. W. Valentine, Chairman; D. Proskey, H. Wood, Geo. H. Blake.

Curator: T. L. Elder.

Mr. de Lagerberg, under the head of new business, called some interesting correspondence which he personally had conducted to the attention of the Club; among this a letter from the Philippines, a report on the Caruso Medals, and on the San Francisco exhibition medal of the Argentine Republic. He also called attention to the medals of his exhibit.

A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. de Lagerberg for his interesting report.

Upon motion duly made a rising vote of thanks was extended to the Secretary and Treasurer for his activities in connection with the duties of his office, and the appropriation for the expense of typewriting for the year 1916 was continued.

Mr. Wormser called attention to the very interesting exhibit of Mr. J. Guttag.

The meeting then adjourned for examination of the exhibits, as follows:

By Mr. de Lagerberg: War-Medal, in white metal, struck to commemorate the German war prisoners interned at Douglas on the Isle of Man. (Courtesy of V. Consul Sven de Lagerberg.)

Oliver Cromwell, Protector. Reverse B. 1599, P. 1653, D. 1658, from a set of fifty rulers in England. Beautiful and rare specimen.

Gustavus Guilelmus S. R. I. Lib. Bar. Ab Imhoff Gub. Gener, Ind. Orient. Foed. Belg. Designed by M. Holtzhey. Fine specimen.

The Windolph Obstetrical Calendar—The first thought in burns. Unguentine by the Norwish Pharmacal Company, Norwich, N. Y.

The Holland "Steunpenning." Designed by C. J. Van der Hoef. Medal struck for the benefit of Dutch Artists, Painters and Sculptors affected by the war. Obv., Goddess of Peace. Rev., The Coat of Arms of the "Committee for the Relief of Artists in Holland."

By Mr. Guttag: **Russia.** A set of Paper Currency consisting of thin cardboard with the obverse the commemorative issue of postage stamps and the reverse printed under the Russian eagle: "It has the right of circulation equally with the current silver coin." 10 Kojecks, blue; 15 Kopecks, rose; 20 Kopecks, green. This is evidently an official postage stamp currency, whereas that issued in our country during the Civil War was never officially recognized.

Portugal. 1915. 10 Centavos.

Colombian Republic. 1913. 5 Pesos gold.

Hungary. 1915, 10 Heller, in a new composition to take the place of the regular nickel issue.

Belgium, under German administration 1915, 5 Centimes in zinc.

By Mr. Smith: 1862 Mechanics Bank of New York, $2.00 bill with red ends.

By Mr. Kohler: Two silver medals of crown size. 1st, upon the siege of Neuhausel and the Battle of Gran, 1685. Obv., Showing battle scene and chart. Rev., Three shields of Waldeck, Lorraine and Bavaria and inscription; below, crossed arrows. 2nd, upon completion of the 17th century. Obv., Father Time, piling 17 stone on a pyramid. Rev., Fame completing the drawing of a circle on the ground.

Mr. Kohler also showed a collection of about 200 nickel coins representing a great many countries. Among them: Belgium separate issues in Bel-

gian and Flemish language. W. Africa and Nigeria 1907, 1/10 penny in aluminum and 1908 in nickel. E. Africa and Uganda 1907, 1 cent in aluminum. Guadeloupe one Franc 1903, with serrated edge.

By Mr. Proskey: 710 Nickel Coins, comprising only foreign issues, with their date and mint-mark varieties, also several Patterns. A very complete series as follows: Argentina, 17; Austria, 9; Belgium, 54; Bolivia, 14; Brazil, 48; British East Africa, 1; British Honduras, 1; British West Africa, 1; Bulgaria, 8; Chili, 9; Colombia, 14; Congo, 4; Corea, 5; Costa Rica, 8; Crete, 3; Cuba, 3 Danish West Indies 1; Ecuador, 7; Egypt, 18; France, 4; German East Africa, 1; Germany, 196; Greece, 8; Guadeloupe, 1; Guatemala, 8; Haiti, 7; Holland, 3; Honduras, 8; Hungary, 7; Italy, 10; Jamaica 60; Japan 7 Kieutschou 2 Luxemburg, 3; Martinique, 2; Mexico, 12; Montenegro, 3; Nicaragua, 3; North Borneo, 3; Panama, 2; Paraguy, 2; Persia, 5; Peru, 10; Portugal, 2; Reunion Islands, 1 Rumania, ; San Domingo, 10; Servia, 7; Siam, 5; Switzerland 68; Turkey, 5; Uruguay, 5; Venezuela, 6.

Among these the following coins deserve special mention: 6 Belgium patterns 1859 and 1860; rare Belgium 5c 1864; France; Chas. X, 2½c pattern; Roumania, 1867, 10 Bani pattern; Costa Rica, ¼ Centavo; Haiti, 1889, 5c; Argentina, 1887, 20c pattern; Chili, 1872, ½c; Turkey, 1 Piastre pattern 1857; Siam ½ Att, pattern.

The purest Nickel is in the Coins of: Austria, Danish West Indies, France, Germany, 25 Pfennig; Greece 1912, Hungary, Italy from 1902, Mexico from 1905, Montenegro, Switzerland, 20 Centimes; Turkey.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Correction for December Minutes.

Exhibits by Mr. Proskey (Corrected): Large New York Store Cards of John Matthews:

No. 1. Portrait to **right** with long hair and short beard; "1808-1870" below. Reverse, Nude boy with monkey wrench attacks a bear, who holds a soda-water tank or siphon; "1882" below.

No. 2. Large head of Matthews to left with short hair and long beard; "1832-1883" below; die sinker's name under bust K. Muller, (Matthews' son-in-law). Same reverse as No. 1. Size 29, American scale.

Metal of both is copper; No. 1 is sometimes on silver-plated planchet.

The Bill introduced in Congress by Hon. Wm. Ashbrook for the coinage of 100,000 Souvenir Gold Dollars of William McKinley, passed the Committee on Coinage and Weights on January 13th. We can now safely look forward to a new issue of Souvenir Gold Dollars in the near future. The entire issue will be sold at a premium to help defray the cost of a Memorial to William McKinley at his birthplace, Niles, Ohio.

"The Monthly has been quite interesting and I look for it each month with pleasure."

C. HASTINGS.

WASHINGTON INSPECTING THE FIRST MONEY COINED AT THE FIRST UNITED STATES MINT.
(See description in January Numismatic Monthly.)

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society

Report of meeting held on January 18, 1916, at the office of the Secretary, Hooker & Lent Building, San Francisco. Eighth meeting called to order by the President, Fred T. Huddart.

Members present: Messrs. Fred T. Huddart, A. Reimers, A. C. Nygren, Farran Zerbe, B. Brandon, Oliver G. Beardslee, and I. Leland Steinman.

Mr. A. Reimers gave an able discourse on "The Pleasure of Coin Collecting."

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Letter from Hon. Judson Brenner, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the American Numismatic Association, to the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society, acknowledging receipt of our application for charter membership in the A. N. A. and advising the P. C. N. S. that our application would be favorably acted upon, read by the Secretary.

Letters were also read from Louis G. Amberg, Secretary of Rochester Numismatic Association, and B. Max Mehl, District Secretary of American Numismatic Association.

The Secretary informed the Society that it had received souvenirs from the Joan-of-Arc Statue Committee, George F. Kunz, President. Upon motion of Fred T. Huddart, seconded by A. C. Nygren, unanimously carried, the Secretary was instructed to set these souvenirs in a prominent place in our cabinet.

Mr. Farran Zerbe presented the Society with a set of Souvenir State Medals from the Panama-Pacific International Exposition; also a money bag with seal intact, which had contained 1000 gold P. P. I. E. Dollars.

Further business was dispensed with in order to exhibit the members' coins.

Mr. A. C. Nygren exhibited a Spanish Doubloon (Size $20) Gold, the mintage of 1856, in magnificent condition; also two varieties 3 lines and 4 lines 1852 and 1853 U. S. Assay Office $10.00 pieces, nearly uncirculated.

Mr. Farran Zerbe exhibited the 20th Set of P. P. I. E., legal tender U. S. commemorative set. With this set the Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint attested that these coins were the twentieth struck. Mr. I. Leland Steinman, who struck the twentieth octagonal $50 Slug, had the option on this set, and purchased same at the meeting from Mr. Zerbe.

Mr. Zerbe also exhibited the iron German 5 pfennig piece 1915, two German 3 Mark commemorative pieces 1915; also 3 different types of the China Republic copper cents.

Mr. Steinman showed a complete set of the different types of U. S. Fractional Currency, all in crisp condition; also a $1.00 San Francisco Clearing House Note, printed only on one side.

The meeting adjourned subject to the next call of the President.

I. LELAND STEINMAN, Secretary.

"The current number is fine. I am pleased to note that you are taking so much interest in the young collector. Keep up the good work along this line. I am sure it will be appreciated by everyone interested in Numismatics."

J. C. S.

Rochester Numismatic Association

The 91st meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association, January 4th, 1916, called to order by President F. B. King.

Members present: Messrs. King, W. H. Amberg, L. G. Amberg, Handler, Stanley, Koeb, Moore, Merritt, French, Borradaile, Yawger.

Mr. Geo. G. Emerich of Fairport, N. Y., was reinstated to membership at his request.

Applications to membership were received from Mr. Robert L. Moore and Mr. Wilbert N. Williams, who were elected to membership in the Association.

Mr. W. H. Amberg exhibited a bronze plaque commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Fulton Trust Co., of New York, describing Robert Fulton and ship "Clermont." The piece was remarkable for work and finish; size 3¼x2 inches.

A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. George F. Kunz, President Joan-of-Arc Statue Committee of New York, for the presentation to this Association of a piece of stone taken from the dungeon at Rouen, where Joan-of-Arc was imprisoned. Also, a bronze medal struck from the special die, commemorating the erection of the Joan-of-Arc Statue, designed by Miss Anna Vaughn Hyatt and unveiled at Riverside Drive, New York City, on December 6th, 1915, and program of proceedings. These will be placed with our exhibit at Rochester Municipal Museum.

Motion was carried that we re-number and revise our Charter Membership, so as to fill in the blank numbers left on account of deaths, resignations, etc., and move up names of active members, also that the Honorary Members be placed on a separate list.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, January 18th, 1916.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

U. S. Coinage for 1915

Prepared from Official Records

By A. J. JANSEN.

	NUMBER OF PIECES		
	PHILADELPHIA	DENVER	SAN FRANCISCO
$50.00 Octagonal, P. P. I. E.			1,509
$50.00 Round, P. P. I. E.			1,510
Double Eagles	152,050	None	567,500
Eagles	351,075	None	59,000
Half Eagles	588,075	None	164,000
Quarter Eagles, P. P. I. E.			10,017
Quarter Eagles	606,100	None	None
Gold Dollars, P. P. I. E.			25,034
Half Dollars, P. P. I. E.			60,000
Half Dollars	138,450	1,170,400	1,604,000
Quarter Dollars	3,480,450	3,694,000	704,000
Dimes	5,620,450	None	960,000
Nickels	20,987,270	7,569,500	1,505,000
Cents	29,092,120	22,050,000	4,833,000

CUBA'S NEW COINS

The First Independent Coinage of Cuba as a Republic

These coins are of the same monetary standard as the money of the United States.

SILVER: Dollar or Peso
40 Cents
20 Cents
10 Cents

NICKEL: 5 Cents
2 Cents
1 Cent.

All of the same Pretty Design

The Complete Set of Seven Pieces, $2.50

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CONFEDERATE HALF DOLLAR OF 1861

Type of Regular U. S. Issue, New Orleans Mint, struck by the Confederates after their seizure of the Mint at New Orleans in 1861.

Practically Uncirculated, Bright Condition, Scarce
Price $1.00

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FORT WORTH, - - TEXAS

Fifty-Dollar Gold Piece 1852

Octagonal;
Augustus Humbert.
The very rare variety with 900 THOUS.

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EAGLES

1799, $10.00 Gold
Heraldic Eagle
Large Stars,
Very Fine
$15.65

1803, $10.00 Gold;
Extremely fine,
sharp and
brilliant. Rare.
$17.25

Four-Dollar Gold Piece 1879

Very good condition; has been used as a watch charm, but is not at all badly worn.

Since proof specimens sell at around $100, this coin may prove "just the thing" for the collector who does not care to invest $100 in a coin.

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Souvenirs of the Fifty-Dollar Gold Pieces

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Interesting as souvenirs or pocket pieces.

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6 for $5.00

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Panama-Pacific Exposition

Coins and Medals

GOLD DOLLARS, each.....$2.25

GOLD $2.50 PIECES, each.....$4.25

SILVER HALF DOLLAR, each.....$1.25

OFFICIAL MEDAL, Bronze.....$ .25

The SET of 50c, $1.00 and $2.50 Gold, and the Medal—the four pieces, $7.50.

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Fort Worth, - - Texas

VOLUME VII. NUMBER 3
WHOLE NUMBER 75

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION
IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
FOREIGN $1.00
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

MARCH, 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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With The Editor

In his address at the annual meeting of the American Numismatic Society in New York, Mr. Osgood Field, one of the Governors, referred to the great need for a coin collectors' primer. He advocated the publication of a small book containing the A B C's of coin collecting, simply told, with a key to the identification of coins. Such a book is badly needed, but its preparation would entail much study and could not be justly treated in a small book;—the subject is too large for that. Any primer that would give the value and means of identification of such minor coins as a five-centime piece of Napoleon III would necessitate the description of an immense number of coins. While every collector should do a little numismatic missionary work, many look outside and neglect the field nearest to hand. Very few collectors make any attempt to engage the interest of their children in their chosen hobby. Mr. Collector, is there not some young member of your own family who would be greatly pleased to be taken into your confidence and to have you show and explain your treasures to him? Try it.

While we do not claim that the Monthly is a perfect primer by any means, the large number of new subscribers and renewals from others—in many cases accompanied with appreciative words of commendation for our efforts during the past year, encourage us to greater efforts to deserve our readers' confidence. We shall make every effort to increase the value of the Monthly—especially to the younger class of collectors.

Mr. Field spoke of the interest aroused in a boy's mind by the gift of a fob, the chief feature being an Alexandrian coin. The boy naturally wants to know all about it, and his father is unable to give the information desired. Very few collectors wear a coin as a fob or watch charm. Once when travelling we met one who wore a Greek silver coin as such. In conversation he said he was often asked its history—how old was it and other questions. He claimed that wearing this charm had been the means of arousing interest in several who had as a result started in the straight and narrow path and were still walking in it. He was particularly anxious to explain he did not make the hole—that would have been nothing less than sacrilege. He bought the hole with the coin.

One of the new battalions recently raised in Canada for Overseas service is popularly known as the "Pals" battalion. The idea was that every recruit joining should make an attempt to get his "pal" or particular friend to join with him. The result was that the battalion secured its full strength of eleven hundred men in a few days. Why not carry this idea into numismatics? There are but few collectors who have not some friend they might influence and who might as a result of their efforts become a real collector. This would insure a numismatic revival and also increase the actual value of our collections. The casualty lists of the opposing armies in Europe are enormous. So also is that of the A. N. A. Fresh members are needed to make good the loss and keep our battalion at its full strength.

QUARTER REALS OF CHIHUAHUA AND OAXACA

Politics in Mexico seem to be settling down somewhat, but we believe collectors will find it much harder in the future to obtain choice specimens of the State coinages than it has been in the past. The Mexican series is especially interesting to the American collector and contains a number of distinctive types. The sixteenth century quarter real of Charles and Joanna—the earliest American coinage, forms a link which binds the Old World to the New. The coinage of the different States from 1811 to 1867 will well repay all the study spent on them. Possibly the most interesting series is that of Oaxaca, those issued by the insurgent General, Jose Maria Morelos, from 1811 to 1814. The type is too well known to require full description. The workmanship is rude and, from the artistic standpoint—poor. But looking over a number of specimens will convince anyone that there were both good and poor workmen in the army of Morelos. Some of them, if we can judge from their work, took both pride and pleasure in it and gave full rein to their fancy in the ornamentation found on the second coinage. The events of the past few years cannot fail to add to the scarcity and value of this series. Fortunate indeed is the collector who has a good selection of these in his cabinet.

IMPORTANT COLLECTIONS TO BE OFFERED SOON

The collections of Mr. W. F. Kapp of Richmond, Va., and Mr. Horace Carr, Jr., of Kansas City are now in preparation and will be offered at auction this season by B. Max Mehl of Fort Worth, Texas.

These collections are principally of the United States series of gold, silver and copper with quite a number of unusual and rare specimens.

Iron and Zinc Coins

By M. SORENSEN.

When it first became known that Germany intended to issue subsidiary coins in iron and zinc, quite a few people were skeptical and shrugged their shoulders at the idea. Money of iron and zinc—almost worthless! That is true; but no better metals are available. People have gotten so accustomed to having their small change in silver, nickel, bronze or copper that the idea of having coins in baser metals seem preposterous to them.

This is not the first time, however, that coins in iron, zinc, tin, lead and other base metals have been issued, but in all such cases has necessity dictated the step. Frequently such necessity pieces have been issued by commanding officers in besieged cities or forts. At Kharthum the gallant Gordon issued dollar pieces in lead mixed with a small amount of silver to harden the composition.

Honduras in 1862 issued 8, 4, 2 and 1 peso pieces, in 1857 a 1 peso, in 1852 and 1853 4 reals pieces, and in 1842 a 2 reals piece, all in bronze.

In the former Danish colony, Trankebar, in Asia circulated coins in lead struck at the fort to satisfy the demand for small change of low value.

Portugal also issued coins in lead for circulation in its Asiatic colonies.

The Danish king, Christian V, had pauper money struck in lead.

From the Japanese seaport of Hakodate is known a round 1 sen piece in iron. It has a hole in the center, and was issued during the reign of Emperor Osa-hitos (1854-59).

Coins in tin have been used quite extensively in Malacca and the Strait Islands.

Porcelain coins have been used in Siam. And the now extinct empire Corea even went so far as to put a coat of blue enamel on its silver coins—a refinement that might be called exceptional.

Tokens in tin, zinc, lead and the composition of these metals are, and have been, in use in nearly every country for payment of bridge toll, street car fare, etc., and are also used in prisons and similar institutions.

Just at this writing comes the report from Europe that Austria is going to follow Germany's example and issue coins struck in iron.

Mottoes on Our Coins

Two mottoes have appeared on many of the coins of the United States, the one from almost the beginning of the national coinage, the other since the Civil War. Neither, however, has had an uninterrupted history, nor has either been employed on all the denominations of the series.

The motto "E Pluribus Unum" was first used on the coins in 1795, when the type of the half eagle presented the main features of the Great Seal, on the scroll of which the motto belongs.

This motto, however, had appeared on the New Jersey cent of 1786, and on the copper cent or token "Immunis Columbia" of 1787. Reversed to read "Unum E Pluribus" it is also found on the Brasher Doubloon of 1787.

The religious motto "In God We Trust" first appeared on the coins of the country in 1864. It owes its presence there largely to the increased religious sentiment in the dreaded crisis of the Civil War. The then Secretary of the Treasury received so many appeals from devout people all over the country,

urging that the Deity be recognized in a suitable manner on our coins as on coins of other countries. The Secretary addressed a letter to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia to that effect. Accordingly patterns for the half dollar and half eagle prepared in 1863 have "God Our Trust," and a pattern for a 2-cent piece made in 1863 has the bust of Washington on the obverse and the legend "God and Our Country." But the familiar form was finally decided upon, and it first appeared on a new 2-cent piece in 1864.

Some More Pointers

ENDORSING UNCLE GEORGE

The article by Uncle George is not only interesting, but very much "to the point," as he prescribes a remedy for a sore spot which a number of young collectors are nursing at the present time, as I know by talking with some of them, especially those who, lacking practical knowledge, have had "junk" passed on to them by more advanced collectors, who are so intensely interested in completing their own cabinets, that they have no leisure, and perhaps less inclination, to help the younger student along the right path of numismatics, but leave him to find out the value and history of what coins he may possess, as best he may.

FIRST TYPE OF OUR HALF CENT—1793

To the young collector, encouragement is not only necessary, but absolutely essential, as all the means of information he is generally able to "come at" are price catalogs, etc., and even should he own Scott's, will merely find the country, its ruler, the variety, and an approximate value of his coins, with nothing of the more interesting and historical information which makes an absorbing, romantic and instructive book in metal, within whose leaves are the rise and fall of nations, the growth of art, in portrait and design, and, many times, a romance, ever dear to the heart of youth.

To read dry history, with its dates and cold statement of facts, is uninviting to the average youth, but to learn of the incentives which lay behind the designs, to know the reason for the high value of some coins, to animate the figures of history as portrayed in metal stirs the interest and moves the imagination, until the coins are no longer cold metal disks, but each one a vivid, live, pulsating page of numismatic record and history.

So, as Uncle George suggests, let's join the "big brother" movement, and do our little bit to supply the lack of the young collector.

There are many of the U. S. coins that command a high premium, but where you may know that the half eagle of 1800 is very high-priced, the young collector seldom is aware of the reason why. And the same applies to U. S. copper and silver money of certain dates.

One illustration along the line of my previous article on the United States mint, to make one coin tell its story:

The foundation of the United States mint at 27 North Seventh street, Philadelphia, Pa., was completed and ready for the superstructure on Saturday, Aug. 25, 1792, and the framework was raised in the afternoon of that day.

The coin presses, three in number, arrived from Europe at the mint on Friday, Sept. 21, 1792. These presses were put in operation in October, 1792, and were used for striking the half dimes, of which George Washington makes mention in his annual address of Nov. 6, 1792, as follows:

"There has been a small beginning in the coinage of half dimes; the want of small coins in circulation calling the first attention to them."

This half dime has upon its obverse a female bust, emblematic of Liberty, facing to the left. This represents the features of Martha Washington, who is said to have sat for the artist, while he was designing it. The hair is short and flowing. Immediately beneath the bust is the date, 1792, surrounded by the legend: "Lib. Par. of Science and Industry." Reverse: Eagle on the wing, with "Half Disme" inscribed below, and the legend: "Uni. States of America."

This coin was said to have been struck from the private die of Washington, which is no doubt a fact, as he took a great interest in the operations of the infant mint, visiting it frequently, and personally superintending many of its affairs.

HALF DISME

Struck from the Private Silver Plate furnished by George Washington

The coin made its appearance in October, 1792, but was not generally circulated, and was the first money minted in silver, as the cent and its half, authorized to be coined by act of congress, is the first copper coined, but did not make its appearance until 1793, as some trouble was experienced in procuring the necessary amount of copper for coinage, and the director of the mint was obliged to advertise for quite a length of time in Dunlap's American Daily Advertiser, the first advertisement appearing Sept. 1, 1792, which runs thus:

The Highest Price
will be given for
O L D C O P P E R
At the Mint
North Seventh St., No. 29. Sept. 1, eot.

But, owing to the lack of the crude metal in this country at that date, the first copper purchased for the mint was on Sept. 11, 1792—six pounds: and it was not until March 1, 1793, that the first return of copper coins from the chief coiner of the U. S. mint to its treasurer took place; and consisted of 11,178 cents.

Any information in regard to history of rare United States, English, Dutch or Irish coins will be given cheerfully to any young collector, on application, through the editor, by yours truly, F. E. DUTCHER.

The Mysterious Busts on Breton 1002, 6, 7

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By S. S. HEAL.

There are but few collectors interested in the Canadian series who have not wondered and speculated as to the identity of the three different busts shown on B. 1002. Some years ago in looking over some old coin catalogues I came across one of a sale held in New York on June 22-23, 1881, by W. Elliot Woodward, of Roxbury, Mass. I quote his description of lot 7:

> "Bust of Col. De Salaberry facing right; rev., 'Ships, Colonies & Commerce.' Col. De Salaberry was General of the Canadian forces at the battle of Chateauquay when the Americans were intercepted in their attempted march on Montreal. I have never before met with this piece; it is not mentioned by Sandham, or as yet by McLachlan in his account of Canadian Coins, nor can I find that it has ever been offered at auction. For the facts concerning this piece I am indebted to Mr. McLachlan. Condition very fine."

Unfortunately we do not know which variety it was that Woodward was offering in this sale.

THE CANADIAN TOKENS, BRETON NO. 1006 AND 1002.

In another catalogue, that of a sale held by the elder Frossard in New York, in December 1888, the following were offered:

> "1328. Bust of George Canning. Rev. Commercial Change.
> 1329. Bust of Sir Robert Peel; Rev. as last. Very fine and rare.
> 1333. Bust of De Sala r. Rev. Ships Colonies & Commerce. Fine and rare."

Here we find in one sale the three varieties assigned to three different men. It is plain now that B. 1002, offered in lot 1333, was the variety with the bust that is not found on B. 1006-7.

Canning and Peel were British statesmen, while Col. de Salaberry was a Canadian officer of that time, well known in the Province of Quebec.

This collection, catalogued and sold by Prof. Frossard, was the property of Gerald E. Hart of Montreal, at that time one of Canada's most prominent numismatists, who it may be taken for granted agreed with the identification of these busts. Indeed it is most probable that he was responsible for same.

I never accepted these identifications myself, having always considered

the busts were all intended to represent Wellington, who at this period figured as a statesman, rather than the great General of former years.

With a desire to get, if possible, to the bottom of this mystery, I wrote to the greatest living authority on this series, Mr. W. J. Davis, of Birmingham, England, the author of "The Token Coinage of the Nineteenth Century," and received the following reply:

"Dear Sir:

"I have given considerable attention and have consulted friends on your letter of Oct. 13 (1910). We believe that the three busts were intended to represent Wellington. You will see that the nose of the effigies of these were efforts to depict this characteristic which was so well known at the time. And the die engraver, not having a good portrait, did his best. If too you consider that the busts were made to represent Wellington as a private gentleman without uniform or laurel wreath, this view is strengthened. Having this in view, note the resemblance to the rubbing enclosed (B. 986). All the pieces (3 Var. 1002) look to the right, which makes another deceiving difference. Yours faithfully,

"W. J. DAVIS."

I think the great majority of collectors who have made a study of this series will endorse Mr. Davis' opinion. Personally I see no mystery in the identification of these three busts and accept them all as meant for Wellington.

Let any one make a strong rubbing of a B. 986 or 987, and then examine it from the other side. The bust will then be to the right. Compare it with the busts on B. 1002. I feel sure that to him—the mystery will remain a mystery no longer.

When Dr. Courteau wrote me saying he purposed writing up the "Wellington Tokens relating to Canada," I strongly advised him to include B. 1002-6-7 in his list, on the ground that they bore Wellington's bust. I forwarded Mr. Davis' letter in support of my views. The doctor, however, could not accept this theory, and collectors can form their own opinion on the subject.

Additional Information Regarding the U. S. Coinage For 1915

By A. J. JANSEN.

In the List of U. S. Coinage for 1915 as published in the February Numismatic Monthly, the Panama-Pacific Exposition Souvenir Coins were given as follows:

$50.00 Octagonal	1,509 pieces
$50.00 Round	1,510 pieces
Quarter Eagles	10,017 pieces
Gold Dollars	25,034 pieces

We are informed that of the above numbers given, ten round and nine octagonal $50.00 pieces, and seventeen of the Quarter Eagles and thirty-four of the Gold Dollars were used for assay purposes, so the amount actually issued for public sale was 1500 each of the round and octagonal $50.00 pieces; 10,000 of the Quarter Eagles, and 25,000 of the Gold Dollars.

Annual Meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society

The Boston Numismatic Society held their annual business meeting and dinner on January 29, 1916, at the St. Botolph Club, with the following members present: Dr. Storer, Wheeler, Tilden, Shumway, Faelten, Shepardson and Gray.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Storer. The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were accepted as read. The election of officers was then taken up with the following results:

President—Dr. Storer, re-elected.

Vice President and Curator—Mr. Robert Bird, re-elected.

Treasurer—Mr. Fred Joy.

Secretary—Mr. Harry A. Gray.

Mr. E. E. Shepardson was elected a member. Mr. Tilden turned over to the Society a medal presented by the Joan of Arc Society.

The following exhibits were made:

By Mr. Tilden: Fine specimens of the half cents of 1800 (two varieties); 1804, plain 4 and no stems; 1806, small 6, with stems; 1795, punctuated date; 1797, two varieties; California quarter dollar.

By Mr. Faelten: A set of the new Cuban coinage proofs and a remarkably fine copper coin of Amisus.

Mr. Shepardson showed an interesting numismatic puzzle,—a quarter dollar of 178– with a different eagle from that of 1794 or 1795 and weak, irregular letters. All who have examined the piece are of the opinion that the "8" is not an alteration. He also showed a fine $2.50 gold piece of 1798 with five berries on laurel wreath.

Mr. Gray showed his magnificent collection of privately issued script of Massachusetts and a number of encased stamps of Bates, Brown, and Burnett.

Mr. Wheeler showed a milled shilling of Elizabeth; a guinea of 1776, first coinage; spade guinea of 1793; sovereign of 1826; sovereign of 1875, Sydney mint; crown of 1900; coronation medal of Edward VII; half daldre of Philip II as Count of Flanders, 1567; Belgian Exposition medal in silver, 1849; Eiffel Tower medal, silver bronze; German medal of the Charlemagne denier type with the simple legend "William King" (query: of what? The Kingdom of Charlemagne?); five pfennig, German iron; gold medal of the second centenary of Luther's Defiance; Venetian grosse of 1275; one tical, Siam; two pesos of Cuba, 1915; Russia, three roubles, 1828, platinum, and the following gold medals of Napoleon and his brothers: 1812, Dneiper River; 1810, marriage to Maria Louisa; 1804, 20 francs; Duro of Joseph Bonaparte of 1809; 10 francs of Louis Bonaparte of Westphalia of 1809; 10 francs of Jerome Bonaparte of 1813; also a bronze medal of Napoleon of Halliday, giving his history.

Mr. Shumway showed a remarkably fine quarter dollar of 1796.

Dr. M. Storer showed anniversary medals of Chicopee, 1915; Athol, 1912; Pembroke, 1912; Columbus Day, Holyoke, 1914; the Dr. R. T. Davis medal of the Fall River schools; the souvenir medals of the Boston Fish Pier, 1914; gilt card of Samuel Colby & Company, Taunton, with obverse dollar of 1870; silver medal of the Boston Herald; two tin medals of Webster, showing that in the Webster-Forrest medal the obverse is by Lovett and the reverse by Key; the quinedecennial medal of Harvard, '98; medal of the National Guard, war maneuvres, 1914; medal struck on the death of Nelson, 1805, (Bramson 485);

the William Pynchon Medal of the Publicity Club of Springfield and the very beautiful first prize medal of the Eastern Yacht Club, Marblehead. These medals were all from the collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

HARRY A. GRAY, Secretary.

Notes on the Annual Meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society

When I joined the party at the Club, I thought the fellows were enjoying a Hallowe'en Party and that each had a separate receptacle for "bobbing" for apples, but upon closer investigation, I found I was mistaken. Instead of apples, they were "Just Cherries," and as they would not float, we had to "Go after them." Mr. Wheeler was nearly submerged when I came in.

We made the largest addition to our membership at this meeting which has occurred in many years. (Mr. Shepardson weighs close to three hundred.)

A gray gloom was cast over the Society by the election of the new Secretary, (Gray), but we took much "Joy" in getting such a fine large Treasurer.

Shumway is our acting typist. (He is getting coin types now.)

Mr. Tilden is of the opinion that we do not need any assessments. "Some class to us."

Mr. Faelten is our official Pianist and Dr. Storer is our dictionary and memory!

I. CON. O'CLAST.

By the kindness of our correspondent, Mr. C. Newman, of Valparaiso, we are enabled to give an illustration here of the new "Peso" of the Chilean Republic, created by virtue of a law which was passed in the early part of the year 1915. The coin differs in size, weight and standard from all the previous issues, but retains the well-known type modelled by Roty.

—Spink's Numismatic Circular.

$40,000,000 IN SINGLE SHIPMENT OF SILVER

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—Treasury department officials are preparing to remove in a single shipment 600 tons of silver dollars from New Orleans to Philadelphia. The total approximates $40,000,000.

The shipment probably will be made by sea in a revenue cutter. Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Byron Newton announced today that he was utterly unafraid of possible submarines or any new-fangled Captain Kidds. However, he said he was not ready to say when the shipment would be made.

The abolition of the mint in New Orleans, he said, makes the transfer necessary.

Cuba's New Money System

Coins on Parity With Those of the United States Take Place of Medley of Mediums—Were Minted at Philadelphia.

By W. W. JERMANE.

According to official reports, Cuba at last has a monetary system of its own, and the transfer from the old system to the new was accomplished without a ripple on the surface of business. The new Cuban coins were minted in the United States and are of gold, silver and nickel.

It is interesting to note that although Cuba has been an independent nation since 1898, when the war between Spain and the United States set it free, it has not until the present hour had its own money. Spanish, French and United States moneys have circulated freely, and the business of the island was transacted by means of them.

On nearly every prominent corner of Cuban cities, as visitors from this country will recall, and especially in Havana, in news, cigar and lottery-ticket stands, there were money changers, who did a thriving business out of the wide confusion of values.

Many abuses and inconsistencies arose from this condition of affairs. Banks and business houses had to keep their accounts in three moneys—Spanish, French and American—and the values of the various coins were constant causes of misunderstanding and a detriment to commerce generally.

Cuba was finally persuaded to put a stop to this state of affairs, and arrangements were made for a national money system, the banks of the country co-operating. The United States gladly opened its Philadelphia mint to the new republic, making only a nominal charge for the service rendered. Last September a presidential decree forbade the use of other than Cuban and American money after December 6, and its effect was to awaken the people to the imminence of the change.

There was a great rush in Havana to get rid of accumulations of French and Spanish gold and silver. The money changers protested long and loud for more time; they passed resolutions and obtained a good deal of newspaper publicity, but to no avail.

The work of converting the foreign coins went on steadily. The banks gathered up large quantities of European silver and gold, shipping most of it to the United States to be minted into Cuban money. Heavy shipments of American money and the new Cuban coins came back in return.

The money changers did a brisk business for a time, until the stock of hoarded centimes, louis, francs and pesos and smaller foreign tokens had come from hiding places and had been converted. Then the "cambistas" had to sell their stocks for American and Cuban money—and found their occupation gone.

The government and municipalities began paying all obligations in national money, banks began paying it out—and the thing was done. There was some complaint, say the official reports, at first, owing to a shortage of small change on account of delayed shipments. But that has been eliminated, and Cuban silver and fractional coins are being received in sufficient quantities for all business purposes.

The new Cuban money consists of gold, silver and nickel. It is estimated that by the end of the present year there will be more than $12,000,000 of this

money in circulation. It is on an absolute parity with the money of the United States, and up to the present time there is more American money in Cuban trade channels than the new money of that country.

But this condition will be changed, as the Philadelphia mint is able to complete the Cuban order. There will always, of course, be a great deal of American money in the island, however, just as there is always a great deal of American money in Canada.

It is forbidden in Cuba to ship the new money out of the island. No bills have been issued. Some factions of the business and political world, it is pointed out, favor the issue of bills direct by the Cuban national treasury; others are equally strong for a national bank of issue. This is a matter yet to be determined and upon which there is a sharp diversity of opinion. Meanwhile American notes are the only ones to be had. The supply of these seems to be adequate, it is said.

The Cuban gold coins are $20, $10 and $5, bearing on one side, in relief, the head of Jose Marti, and on the other the coat of arms of Cuba half encircled by laurel wreaths. On one side the coin bears the inscription "Patria y Libertad," and the date, and on the other, "Republica de Cuba," and the denomination. Each coin is marked with its fineness.

The coins are said to be exceedingly artistic and handsome. The $5 piece has sprung into great favor and is already known colloquially as the "Marti." Jose Marti, it may be worth recalling in this connection, was one of the most popular of Cuban patriots, and lost his life in the struggle of the island against Spanish oppression and misrule.

He was born in Havana in 1853, and fell in battle in 1895, at the age of 42 years. For a number of years he published, in New York City, a Cuban journal of independence, La Patria.

The new Cuban money is upon the same system as that of the United States, and the dollar sign is used to designate it. The peso, or silver dollar, equals 100 centavos (cents). Instead of a 50-centavo piece, there is the "cuarenta," or 40-centavo coin; the "veinte," or 20-centavo, and the silver 10-centavo piece. There are nickel 5-centavo pieces, and a 2-centavo coin, and a 1-centavo coin of nickel.

The silver currency bears the coat of arms of Cuba on one side and a five-pointed star surrounded by rays on the other.

U. S. Won't Mint French Coins

Government Also Refuses Orders for Other Belligerents.

Philadelphia, Feb. 18.—Uncle Sam is taking no chances on a breach of neutrality with belligerent nations of the world. Rather than risk the possibility of being accused of shipping contraband he has declined to honor inquiries from Europe for work to be done in the Philadelphia Mint.

It developed tonight that the French Minister of Finance recently addressed a communication to the United States Treasury Department at Washington asking whether this Government could mint 2,000,000 25-centime pieces. The order was for nickel "blanks" that were to have been stamped by dies after reaching France. The metal was to be bought in this country on account of the scarcity abroad.

Remembering General Lafayette, the authorities pondered over the matter and then delivered an ultimatum to the effect that the order could not be filled. A formal statement was issued that belligerent nations could not be served in this manner.

Adam Joyce, Superintendent of the Philadelphia Mint, parent of the three United States coinage plants, hinted tonight that the Government had probably been moved to decline the inquiries on the ground that, while the "blanks" might be intended for coins, as ordered, there was nothing to prevent their being converted into munitions once they arrived in Europe. The shipment of coins, therefore, might easily be construed as a violation of neutrality, aside from any question as to the contraband character of the goods.

It develops also that the State Department put its foot down on an inquiry for mint machinery from the Russian Government. This inquiry found its way into the Philadelphia Mint, through which it was to have been supplied had the order been accepted. With regard to Russia the same attitude was taken as in the case of France.

While the bars are up against belligerent nations, this Government is doing much minting work for Central and South American countries. A big order is being rushed to completion for Cuba, delivery to be made April 1, and other orders are being filled with South American governments. The latter have turned to the United States because they have been cut off by the war from mints in England. —N. Y. Times.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, February 1, 1916.

The 93rd meeting called to order; F. B. King, President, presiding. Members present: Dr. Handler, G. C. Emerich, F. B. King, W. H. Amberg, F. E. Merritt, L. G. Amberg, E. L. Stanley, L. J. Woolsey, G. J. Bauer, J. A. Koeb, H. H. Yawger, Dr. French, E. D Putnam, P C Wild, C T Borradaile, W. H. William, Dr. Tillotson.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Bauer thanked the Association for the kind remembrance during his illness.

Mr. Wayte Raymond of New York was elected to membership.

Mr. Koeb, Chairman of the Medal Committee, submitted a sample of our 1915 medal with portrait of our last President, Mr. Amberg. A committee was appointed to secure bids for the striking of the medal.

A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Henry Chapman for delivering his address at our Annual Dinner.

Our exhibit at the Museum was increased with a choice 1805 Cent donated by Dr. French and by an 1846 Dime, the gift of Mr. Bauer.

Tuesday, February 15, 1916.

The 94th meeting called to order; F. B. King, President, presiding. Members present: Messrs. Woolsey, Bauer, Plumb, L. G. Amberg, Merritt, Koeb, Tillotson, French, W. H. Amberg, Handler, Stanley, Yawger, King, Borradaile, William.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Koeb submitted samples of our 1915 medal in five different colors of bronze, from which a desirable selection was made.

Mr. Farran Zerbe of San Francisco favored us with a photograph of his interesting exhibit. This will be placed with our exhibit at the Rochester Muesum.

Upon motion of Mr. Woolsey, the Association's remembrance was expressed to Mr. Joseph Hooper on his 83rd birthday, in the way of a beautiful floral gift.

Mr. Merritt reported that considerable interest was manifested in our display at the Museum and urged the membership to increase our display as much as possible.

After the meeting a very successful auction sale was held.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, March 2.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meetng was held Friday evening, February 11, 1916, at the Park Avenue Hotel, President Boyd presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Beesley, Belden, Boyd, Davidson, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Kohler, Nangle, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood and Wormser.

After the calling of the roll the Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved as read.

The Secretary reported receipt of communication from Member Zerbe; of the contribution to the library of the Club from Mr. Memmo Cagiati of his work on "Le Monete Del Re Reame Delle Due Sicilie"; and of two magazines.

The Treasurer submitted a report.

The Executive Committee recommended that hereafter exhibits should be shown before new business should be in order. The subject set for the next meeting is to be an "Exhibition of the three most interesting coins in each member's collection, and comments thereon."

The Publication Committee reported that the annual of the Club, owing to the printer's delay, would not be ready until the next meeting.

With Messrs. Nangle and Kohler acting as tellers, Mr. Dudley Butler was unanimously elected a member of the Club.

Mr. Elder called attention to the reported bill in Congress authorizing the issue of 100,000 McKinley Gold Dollars, and told of the receipt of a letter from the President of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society, which has just been established.

In connection with the subject of the evening, Mr. Heaton very interestingly told of his visit to General Jackson's home in Nashville, Tenn.

The members then examined the exhibits in connection with the subject set for the meeting, "Tokens and Medals of Andrew Jackson."

Very rich and interesting series of these tokens and medals, some of them very rare and only a few specimens known, were shown both by Mr. David Proskey and Mr. F. C. C. Boyd.

Mr. Proskey showed some 96 tokens, medals and store cards in gold, silver, copper, bronze, lead and white metal, mainly differing dies and very few metal varieties, and also a ticket to the Inaugural Ball held on March 11, 1830,

at the Park Theatre New York. The exhibit also contained one of the original brass buttons worn by President Jaekson at this ball.

Among Mr. Proskey's exhibit were the following thirteen pieees of most remarkable and rare types:

No. 1. Obv., Bust to left in uniform. "Genl. Andrew Jackson." Rev., "The Nations Pride" with two stars in laurel wreath.

No. 2. Obv., Military Bust of Jackson in oval frame. Rev., "C. Wolfe Clark & Spies, New York. Hardware & Military Store." Bust of Washington to right in oval frame.

No. 3. Obv., "Cutlery, plaited ware, guns etc. 193 Pearl St., New York." Military bust in oval frame. Rev., "C. Wolfe Spies and Clark, Hardware & Military Store." Bust of Washington to right in oval frame.

No. 4. Obv., Military bust of President in octagonal frame. Rev., "C. Wolfe Spies & Clark, New York. Hardware and Military Store." Bust of Washington in frame to right.

No. 5. Original button from Jaekson's coat worn at inauguration. Cirele of twenty-three stars, circle in eenter square outside. "Andrew Jaekson Mareh 4th, 1829."

No. 6. Obv., Civilian bust to right "Gen. Andw. Jaekson." Rev., "For President of the United States seceond term 1832" in laurel wreath.

No. 7. Obv., Civilian bust to right "Andrew Jaekson." Rev., "Battle of N. Orleans." Battle scene.

No. 8. Obv., Military bust to right. "And. Jaekson President of the U. States. 1829." Rev., "Hero of New Orleans," in laurel wreath.

No. 9. Obv., ¾ bust to left. "And. Jaekson President of the U. States 1829." Rev., "The Gallant & Suecessful defender of N. Orleans 1815" in laurel wreath.

No. 10. Obv., ¾ bust to left. "And. Jaekson. President of the U. States, 1829." Rev., Eagle in cirele of stars holding arrows in right elaw.

No. 11. Obv., Military bust to left. "General Andrew Jackson." Rev., "Battle of New Orleans. Jan. 8th 1815." Battle scene.

No. 12. Obv., Equestrian statue to left. "Andrew Jackson." Rev., Eagle and Shield. "The Advocate of the American System."

No. 13. Indian Medal. Obv., Civilian bust to right. "Andrew Jackson President of the United States A. D. 1829." Rev., Peace & Friendship." Hatchet and pipe and two hands elasped.

Mr. Boyd's exhibit contained among others the following:

Saterlee No. 21. An Eagle with expanded wings bearing the U. S. shield, and holding a ribbon inscribed "E PLURIBUS UNUM." Encircled within 24 stars. Rev., Wreath of oak and laurel leaves. "General Jackson, the Gallant and successful defender of New Orleans and candidate for the Presidency of the U. S. of A. 1828." White metal.

Saterlee No. 33. Bust of Jackson facing to the right. "Andrew Jackson President." Rev., "Elected A. D. 1828. Re-elected A. D. 1832. We Commemo'at the Glorious Victories of our Hero, in War and in Peace." Brass.

Saterlee No. 35. Laureated bust of Jackson facing to the right. "Andrew Jackson, President of the U. S." Rev., Elected A. D. 1829. Rev. same as No. 33. Brass.

Saterlee No. 38. Obv., Card of C. Wolfe, Spies & Clark. Head of Washington. Rev., Jackson three-quarter face in oval. Brass.

Same Obv. Rev., Jackson in octagonal frame. Brass.

Same Obv. Rev., Jackson in oval plain background. Copper.

Saterlee No. 40. Bust of Jackson, ¾ face. "Gen'l. Andrew Jackson." Rev., A laurel wreath, "Hero of New Orleans." Brass.

Saterlee No. 40-A. Same Obv. Rev. "S" of Orleans directly over leaf.

Saterlee No. 41. Jackson facing the left. "Gen'l Andrew Jackson." Rev., Wreath of oak and laurel branches. "The Nation's Good." Brass.

Saterlee No. 42. Obv. as last. Rev., Wreath of oak and laurel. "The Nation's Pride." Brass.

Saterlee No. 42-A. Obv. as last. Rev. as last, with two stars. Brass.

Bust of Jackson to right, "Jackson" above, by Bolen. Rev., "Andrew Jackson the stern old soldier a foe to traitors 7th President, U .S." Copper, brass, silver.

Same Obv. Rev., Jefferson. Copper, brass and silver.

Obv. as last. Rev., Bust of Webster. Copper brass and silver.

Metal Design for U. S. Stamp. Naked bust of Jackson in oval white metal.

Button from Jackson's Presidential coat. Obv. plain. Rev., Circle of 23 stars, circle in center, square outside. "Andrew Jackson 'March 4, 1829.' Four known. Brass.

Saterlee No. 29. Obv., Jackson facing to the right. "Andrew Jackson." Rev., A willow tree and tomb. "Born Marc. 15, 1767. Died June 8, 1845." White metal.

Obv., Bust in uniform to right. "Gen'l Andw. Jackson." Rev., Wreath around border, "Retired from the presidency of the U. S. March 4, 1837." White metal.

Obv., Bust of Jackson in uniform; in circle, "Old Hickory took the Responsibility." Rev., list Battles, Birth and Death, in fifteen lines. Copper.

Obv., Bust of Jackson to left by C. W. Betts. 'Gen. Andrew Jackson." Rev., Sun and rays inside of wreath. "United States of America" enclosed in circle of leaves.

Book. Pictorial life of Andrew Jackson with 117 illustrations, by John Frost, LL. D. Published by Belknap and Hamersley 1847.

Other exhibits not in connection with the subject of the evening were:

By Mr. Proskey: Spain; Charles II, 1682 Groat of Valencia with error in the spelling; "Grasia" instead of "Gratia." Austria, Silver Medal 1898, commemorating jubilee of Emperor Francis Joseph and shooting festival at Vienna. Portugal, 1915, one escudo. New York bronze store card of Keuffel and Esser on 25th jubilee 1867 to 1892. Netherlands, 10c, proof, 1843, with Gothic W., pattern, never in circulation and only six pieces struck.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

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FORT WORTH - - - TEXAS

Mexican Revolutionist Coins

I have a few complete sets of the "Villa Coins" Consisting of the Silver Peso and Half Peso, and the 5 Centavos and 2 Centavos Bronze.

The silver coins were struck from "confiscated" bullion, and it is said that these coins contain parts of gold. The 2 centavo pieces were coined from the trolley wires of the Parral-Santa Barbara Railway. It was necessary to suspend operations on this line.

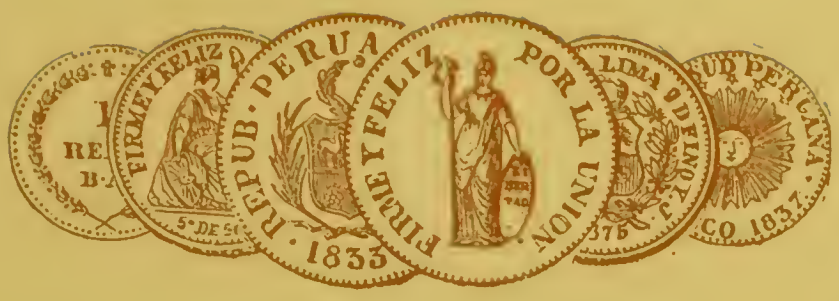
THESE COINS ARE ALL VERY SCARCE

I have only a few sets left, all in

CHOICE CONDITION

PRICE $5.00

for the set of four coins.



Interesting Foreign Coins

(SILVER AND COPPER)

For Sale Cheap—In Sets

FROM THE COLLECTION FORMED BY REV. S. M. MORTON.

All coins in average fine to very fine condition. Only one set of each in stock, so order substitute list as well. All Copper unless otherwise described.

No. of Set

1. AFRICA, Liberia, 1c, 2c, Tunis, Morocco, 7 pieces..... $ .45
2. AUSTRIA, ½ to 3 Kreutzer, 1800 to 1903, copper, and 3, 6, 10, and 20 Kreutzer and ¼ Florin silver, 21 pieces..... 1.20
3. BADEN, 1 Kreutzer, 3 vars., branze, and 3 and 6 Kreutzer, silver, 5 varieties 1830 to 1867. 8 pieces (5 silver)..... .95
4. BELGIUM, 1 to 20 centimes, copper and nickel, one with portrait of Leopold I. 11 pieces..... .60
5. BAVARIA, All silver, 1 to 6 Kreutzers, 1808 to 1850. 7 pieces..... .75
6. CONGO FREE STATE. 1, 2, 5 and 10c. Perforated centers. 4 pcs..... .25
7. DENMARK, 1/5 Skilling copper to 24 Skilling piece silver. 11 copper and 26 silver; Frederick IV, 1703 to 1859; many very scarce. A fine collection in itself; 37 pieces in all—only bought separately would cost double..... 3.25
8. ENGLAND, Farthing to penny, including farthing of Wm. and Mary dated 1694. Together with the scarce model Penny of Victoria. 18 pieces..... 1.00
9. FRANCE, 2 Sous to the large and scarce Monneron 5 Sou piece, Soldiers swearing to the Constitution. Henry IV, Louis XVI, Chas. X, Napoleon III, Republic. 21 copper and 8 silver, 1589 to 1887. Scarce and interesting collection. 29 pieces..... 2.75
10. FRANCE, Louis IX, Silver deniers. 5 pieces..... .90
11. FRANKFORT, Free City, 1 and 3 K., silver and lead base. Arms of City and view of Buildings. Scarce. 6 pieces..... .40
12. GREECE, 1 to the large 10 Lepta, copper and nickel. 1828 to 1900. 8 pieces.. .55
13. GERMAN STATES, Hanover, Bagern, Saxony, etc. Very small silver and copper to te 3 pfennig piece. 5 copper, 2 nickel and 15 silver, including one of 1646. 23 pieces..... 2.00

(Continued on next page)

FOREIGN COINS FOR SALE, CHEAP

(Continued from preceding page)

No. of Set

14. HANOVER, Hess, Bavaria, 1751 to about 1880. 16 pieces..... .75

15. HAMBURG, and Poland, 1665 to 1848. 13 copper and 2 silver, including one of Leopold the "Hog Mouth." 15 scarce pieces..... 1.30

17. OLDENBURG, Saxony, Herse, 1 heller to 5 pfennig. All old. 2 silver. 12 pcs. .90

18. HOLLAND, OLD DUTCH PROVINCES and JETOUR. 1859 and later, all old, including two rare silver pieces of 1676 and 1680. 25 very scarce and interesting pieces 2.25

19. HOLLAND, Modern, ½ cent to 2½ cents copper, and 10 cents silver (3). 18 pieces . ..... .70

20. HAITI, ½ cent to 20 cents, including the rare 10c of 1855 with portrait of Faustin, Emperor of Haiti. Fine and rare set. 9 pieces..... 1.10

21. ITALY, 1, 5, 10 Cent, bronze, including one of Napoleon, and two silver 5c and 10c, one of Napoleon. 8 pieces..... .70

22. INDIA, From the small, scarce "ONE PIE" to Hald Anna. 10 pieces..... .75

23. INDIA, Silver "quarter pagoda" (weight of U. S. ½ dollar). Fine and rare.. .60

24. NEW ZEALAND, Tradesmen Tokens, large coppers. 4 pieces..... .35

25. NORWAY and SWEDEN, 1 to 5 ore copper, and 10 ore silver. 18 copper and 7 silver. 25 pieces 1.35

26. OLDENBURG, Hesse, Hanover and Sachsen, silver and base silver, ½ dime to quarter dollar size; all old. 11 silver pieces..... 1.20

27. PAPAL, ½ Balvcco, 2 Soldi, and the large 3 Baiocchi. Very fine and scarce. 3 pieces . ..... .40

28. PORTUGAL, 10 to 40 R. and the rare ½ Macuta. 4 pieces..... .45

29. SOUTH AMERICA, Copper, nickel and silver (1) Argentine, Brazil, Honduras, etc. Very fine and scarce set. 23 pieces..... 1.75

30. RUSSIA, ¼ to the large 5 Kopecks copper, and 5 and 10 K. silver. 13 pieces.. .85

31. SARDINIA and TUSCANY, 10 to 20 Tornesi. Scarce set. 6 pcs..... .55

32. SWITZERLAND, 1c to ½ franc silver. 18 copper and 17 nickel and silver. 35 pieces, mostly old..... 2.10

33. SWEDEN, 1/6 Skilling to the large 4 Skilling piece, including 4 "Dalers." Scarce. 14 copper and 4 silver. 18 pieces..... 1.45

34. SPAIN, Isabella, Alphonso. Small and large coppers. 16 different..... .75

35. TURKEY, 1 to 20 Para copper (4) and ½ to 5 Piasters silver (4) and 3 nickel and base. 10 pieces..... 1.00

36. VENICE, 1792 to 1852, 8 copper and 1 silver 15 Ctml. with Leon of St. Mark. 9 scarce pieces 1.00

37. WURTEMBURG, Silver and base, ½ Groschen to 6 Kreutzer, all old. 6 pcs.. .70

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY REFUNDED.

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, - - TEXAS

VOLUME VII. NUMBER 4
WHOLE NUMBER 76

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

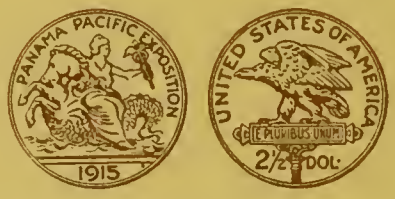
An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION
IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
FOREIGN $1.00
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

APRIL, 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.



OFFICIAL UNITED STATES COINS
OF THE
Panama-Pacific Exposition

I have just secured a small quantity of these. They seem to be advancing in price rapidly, and are quite in demand.

Send your order while they last.

Gold Dollars,	Each	$ 2.25
Gold $2.50,	"	4.25
Silver Half Dollar,	"	1.25
The Set of Three Coins		*$ 7.50*

PLEASE ADD 12 CENTS FOR POSTAGE AND REGISTRATION

Panama-Pacific Octagonal Fifty-Dollar Gold Piece

For Sale at a Special Price

One of the most perfect Specimens I have seen. Original Price, $100.

I offer this $50 gold piece *together* with the $2.50 gold piece, gold dollar, and half dollar, *all four coins, for only $100.*

Send your order to

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, - - TEXAS

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher

301-304 Commonwealth Building, Fort Worth, Texas

Subscription Price in United States and Canada, 50 cents a year; Foreign $1.00

Vol. VII. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, APRIL, 1916 No. 4

With The Editor

A LITTLE LATE, BUT—

No one realizes more than we do the importance of promptness, and we have been prompt with the Monthly right along, but this issue is a trifle late, but through no fault of ours, as the editor, who incidentally is "copy boy," proof-reader, etc., was whisked out of his comfortable swivel chair without notice for the purpose of serving an entire week on jury duty.

While we appreciate the evident wisdom of the official in selecting a numismatic editor to assist in the dispensation of justice, we hope that this honor will not fall on our already heavily burdened shoulders for some time to come. And we also hope that our readers will overlook our unavoidable tardiness with this issue.

"Nearly £4,500,000 profit, as against an estimated £560,000, was made by the Mint for the year ended March 31, 1915, in coining silver to meet the exceptional demand caused by the war."

The above extract from an English paper of recent date indicates that the British Mint is turning out a vast issue of silver coins. The profit is considerable also, and yet it is not enough to pay her war expenses for one week. When will the nations learn wisdom?

Some years ago there was a movement made in the A. N. A. for the benefit of the young collector. Several advanced members offered to answer any questions from younger ones concerning coins they were interested in. Names and addresses were published in the "Numismatist," and a "big broker" movement was started on its way. We were curious enough to try to find out whether any took advantage of these offers, and on writing to some of those who had volunteered their help we found to our great surprise that four of them had never received a letter—had never been asked a single question. This may have been due to modesty on the part of the young collector. He may have feared to give trouble—or have had a dark suspicion that this was a scheme of the older men to work off their second-class duplicates and discards. But the fact remains that not a single question was asked the four. We do not attempt to explain this, but trust that any desiring information will accept Mr. Dutcher's offer of assistance in the series he named.

The general opinion seems to favor the publication of a coin collectors' manual. We have received many letters recently to this effect. The difficulty seems to be to induce some capable numismatist to undertake the work. Mr. Dutcher's paper in our last issue was a step in the right direction. Who will take the next? There are many collectors in this country capable of doing good work in writing up the series they have specialized in, for the benefit of young collectors. In writing such papers one thing should be kept in mind. Many of the papers written, and read before the numismatic societies, while excellent and interesting to the members present, are completely above the grasp of the young collector. They are too learned and technical. They appeal to the advanced man, and he appreciates them. But a boy must master the alphabet before he can read.

The New York Numismatic Club are doing good work. Their February exhibit consisted of a choice selection of the tokens and medals of Andrew Jackson. The great majority of collectors confine their attention to those found in Mr. Low's list of this series. This is a mistake, as many of the Jackson tokens not found there are equally as interesting. In fact, the American politicals are a most fascinating series and will richly repay all time spent in their study. Why not study this series more?

The "Politicals" offer a large field to work in. The tokens of Henry Clay. Gen. Zachary Taylor—there is one with date 1848, with a most interesting reverse—"Liberty and Union now and forever. One and inseparable." Gen. Harrison—the Hero of Tippecanoe. How many can explain the allusion to "the Loco-foco line for Salt river direct" found on some "Harrisons?" And others of Lincoln and Hamlin, Steve A. Douglas, Seymour and Blaine and many others. Surely these are as worthy of study as the Bryan dollars, or the issues of Pikes Peak.

A "STANDARD" COIN CATALOGUE

"I was much interested in your editorial in the March Numismatic Monthly. Would it not be practical to publish a catalogue on coins such as the Scott Co. publish on stamps? The latter is recognized as the standard, and by it any stamp may be readily recognized.

"It seems to me that even if prices were left out, such a work could be made to pay for itself, besides conferring a great boon on the amateur numismatist."

DR. H. A. DAVIS.

Dr. Davis' suggestion for a "standard" coin catalogue to give illustrations of ALL coins of the world is a good one but hardly practicable. The origin of postage stamps extends back less than one hundred years, while that of coins extends nearly three thousand years. The issue of a coin catalogue to contain the illustrations of the coins of only the past four or five centuries would cost quite a fortune in money and would require an enormous amount of time and labor.

Why a similar catalogue can, evidently profitably, be produced by the Stamp Trade is readily explained by the fact that illustrations of the stamps

are easier to procure and to make, and, above all, there are at least one hundred stamp collectors to every coin collector. But even in stamps, as in coins, there are various more extensive works on certain issues, so that the collector whose interest is attracted to some special issue or country, whether he collects stamps or coins, can always obtain all necessary information and history on the subject.

A PAPER ON ANCIENTS

That Will Be Welcomed by American Collectors.

In an early issue we shall publish an article on Ancient Roman Bronze Coins that will undoubtedly meet with a hearty reception by all collectors. Briefly the paper will explain ancient Roman Bronze Coins. How the most ignorant novice can attribute these coins to their proper emperors. It will explain how to make sense of the jumbled up inscriptions found on the obverses of this series. The author writes us that "it will not be too learned or technical; no dry history cribbed from Gibbon; no page cut from Humphrey; but will be on original lines.—to be a **real help** to men who do not know what to make out of a Roman legend."

"I enclose renewal of my subscription to the Numismatic Monthly. It is a good newsy paper, and no coin collector can afford to be without it."

HENRY ROLLMAN,
(State Senator of Wisconsin.)

"I find this a very fine magazine and congratulate you on the quality of it."

CHAS. W. STILES.

Maundy Money of England

On Thursday, April 20th, another year's issue will be added to the long series of the British Royal Maundy Money. Penny, twopenny, threepenny and fourpenny pieces form a set. The custom of distributing the royal alms on "Maunday" Thursday—as the day before Good Friday is styled—has come down through long centuries from the old Catholic ages. Some such ceremony was performed by those of the highest rank, from the Pope down to the Barons in their castles, in commemoration of the Christ, who washed His disciples' feet when He gave them that "new commandment" or "mandate" whence the day has its name.

Formerly the Kings and Queens used to wash the feet of as many beggars as the monarch was years old. In fact, even in recent years Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, has performed this duty to the poorest of his subjects. In England, however, this part of the ceremony is now dispensed with. The last King to personally conduct it was James II. Since then, under the Hanoverian line, it is performed by the Royal Almoner.

The alms given and the number of recipients are governed by the age of the reigning Sovereign thus the sets issued during the latter years of Queen Victoria are far more numerous than those issued during her early reign, and

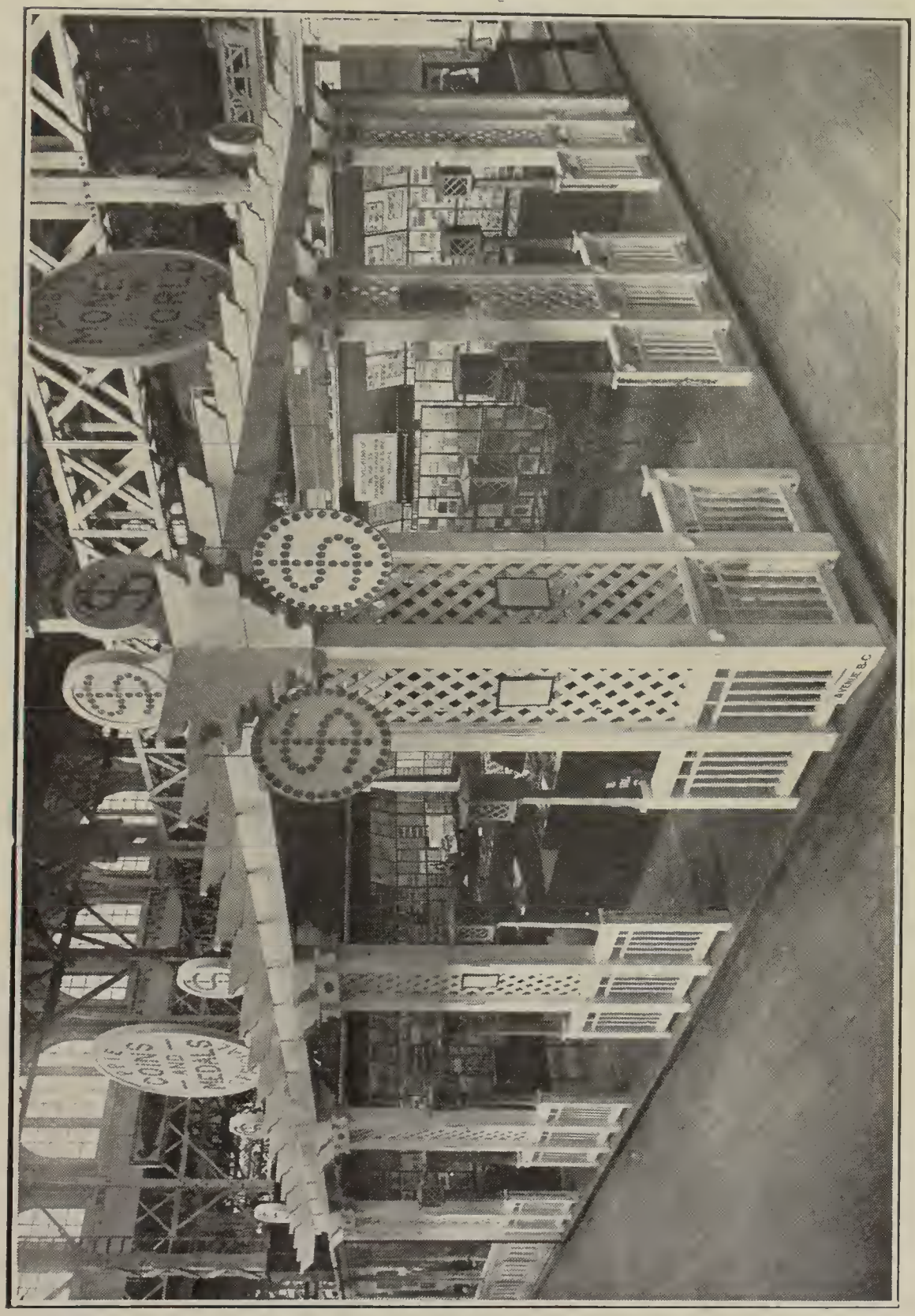
those issued under the present King. In 1898 each man received full sets to the value of $29.00 and each woman nearly $22.00.

The distribution takes place at Westminster Abbey—"The Collegiate Church of St. Peter, Westminster." Built in the year 616 by Sebert, King of the East Saxons, whose tomb is a great attraction. Very little of the original building can be traced now, and the present church is due really to Edward the Confessor, who rebuilt it between the years 1049 and 1065, and was buried there in the odour of sanctity.

The ceremony is open to the public, who are admitted by ticket. The Yeomen of the Guard—or "Beef-eaters," in their quaint Tudor costume, red stockings, buckle shoes with red and white bows, red coats plentifully bedizened with gold lace, having the rose of the Tudors embroidered on their backs, with high starched ruffs and curious black shiny hats, ornamented with little bunches of white ribbons. Armed with staffs they keep guard over the proceedings. The coins bear the usual head of the King on the obverse, while on the reverse is the numeral of value surmounted by a crown. There is always a great rush by collectors for these coins. As soon as the service is over, crowds of buyers flock around the recipients who are anxious to sell their sets, but not so anxious as not to ask from four to six times their face value. Twenty cents is the face value of a set, and from four to five shillings is the price asked. The full set can as a rule be bought afterwards from a dealer for from seventy-five cents to one dollar.

Numismatics at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition

The subject of numismatics was represented to a greater extent at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition held at San Francisco last year than at any previous exposition in this country. This representation was fostered and directed by Farran Zerbe, a former president of the American Numismatic Association, who was selected to take charge of the Exposition's Department of Coins and Medals. Mr. Zerbe, who has a notable collection of the world's mediums of exchange which he has used commercially by making exhibits under the auspices of various banks in the good-sized cities of the country during the past ten years, used his collection as an exhibit in the interest of his department and which materially contributed to the success of his work for the Exposition. The Zerbe collection comprises some twenty thousand specimens of distinct shape, type, denomination and material, comprehensively assembled and displayed—an exceptional educational index to what man at all times and periods has used for money. This collection formed the central part of an exhibit installed in the Palace of Liberal Arts as shown in the accompanying illustration. To augment this exhibit some choice specimens were loaned to Mr. Zerbe for the purpose; notable among them were some exceptionally rare pieces from the collection of H. O. Granberg, Oshkosh, Wis., which included the finest known Oregon Beaver $10 gold coin, United States pattern pieces, and the eight daler copper plate of Sweden; some very choice gold bank notes from George H. King of Denver; a unique collection of oriental porcelain tokens and other specimens from Elmer S. Sears, Swansea,



MR. ZERBE'S EXHIBIT AT THE PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION

Mass.; selections from the medallic collection of A. J. de Lagerberg, Passaic, N. J.; and some favors through the courtesy of Dr. George F. Kunz of New York.

The exhibit, which was open to the public during all the days of the Exposition, was visited by many thousands of people and undoubtedly was a good factor in permitting the general public with little or no knowledge of the subject of numismatics to better appreciate that subject's aims and purposes. The installation and maintenance of this exhibit was at the expense of the Exposition, and was probably the only exhibit on the grounds, outside of the Fine Arts Department, to be thus supported.

That the public's interest in this exhibit was appreciated by the Exposition is evidenced by the arrangement made for its removal to the Fine Arts Palace which continues open to the public over the post-Exposition period, to close about May first. With larger space and companionable surroundings, the exhibit in the Fine Arts Palace is decidedly more satisfactory than was possible to make it in its former location in the Liberal Arts Palace.

Several foreign countries exhibited their current coins and paper money in their respective buildings; the relative exhibit of the U. S. Government was notable for its paper money, and a complete set of U. S. mint medals, the only coins shown were a set for the current year; in the Fine Arts department leading medallists of the world were represented by some of their finest products; and France, in its special building, had a wonderful exhibit of the works of the medal masters of the French school.

Dangerous Counterfeit

The following warning has been issued by the Seattle, Wash., branch of the United States Secret Service:

All handlers of money, experts included, are warned to be on the lookout for one of the most dangerous counterfeit $5 silver certificates with which this Service has ever had to deal, and which has just made its appearance on this Coast. The note is of the Indian head design, Series 1899; J. C. Napier, Register, and Lee McClung, Treasurer of U. S. The paper is practically equal to the genuine. The seal and numbering are good, while all the counterfeits thus far seen bear Check Letter "C". The note has the distributed silk fiber. The length of the note is about the same as the genuine, but the printing is one-fourth of an inch longer—therefore it may be readily detected by comparing it with a $5 silver certificate, Indian head, known to be genuine. The notes which have so far appeared on the Coast begin E711, but there may be other numbers. Please notify this office promptly should one of these notes be presented, and unless the one presenting them is known, detain him until an officer can be secured and an investigation made, and greatly oblige.

Respectfully, THOMAS B. FOSTER,
Agent in Charge.

COMMUNICATIONS

The New Cuban Coinage

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly,
Fort Worth, Texas.

Gentlemen:—

I presume you will be interested in knowing that Cuba carries all the honors in having been able to change her entire monetary system and money over night. I recently returned from a three weeks' trip over the Island, in which I visited twenty-seven different cities and towns, and not in the whole trip did I see a solitary piece of old Spanish and Mexican silver that used to circulate so freely; there being no money in existence excepting our United States money in all of its variety and the new Cuban coinage.

This new Cuban coinage is at par with the United States money, and the two are accepted everywhere without question. I understand that deposits have been made in New York by the Cuban Government which insures the value of their silver remaining at par, and I noticed that Cuban silver was accepted at Key West and along the line of the Key West and East Coast railroads as readily as our American silver.

Cuba's new coinage is very interesting, indeed, as they have brought out Gold, Silver and Nickel. The nickel coins are 1, 2 and 5 cent pieces; their silver coins are 10, 20, 40 and 100 cent or peso or dollar pieces, and their gold coins are 1, 2, 4, 5, and 10 dollar pieces. I have heard it intimated that they also coin $20.00 pieces, but I did not hear of them in Cuba, nor did I see any of the $10.00 pieces, but was assured they had been coined, and I handled a good many of the 1, 2, 4, and 5 dollar pieces in gold.

The only paper money used in Cuba is American, and you find our bills there in all denominations up to $1000.00.

In the remote districts in the middle of the Island our copper pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, half dollars, dollars, five, ten and twenty dollar gold pieces, one, five, ten, and twenty dollar bills are common, and the banks have fifty, hundred and larger bills.

I found it gratifying, indeed, travelling in a foreign country where American money carried equal honors with the money of the local Government. The presumption would be that considerable confusion and many mistakes

would arise from the similarity of values between their 20-cent and 40-cent pieces and our quarters and half dollars, but I witnessed no confusion and do not believe I made any mistakes.

The reason there is a large amount of American money in Cuba is that for many years the railroad and street car companies all over the Island have accepted no other money at par for their fares than American money, and previous to the new Cuban coinage all of the other money on the Island was at a discount. The Spanish and Mexican silver being quoted at 50 cents on the dollar. Now, apparently all of the under-valued silver has been removed from circulation and I did not see one piece of it offered, nor did I see any of the Spanish, Portuguese or Latin-American gold that they used so largely before their new coinage was introduced.

It is very true that their four and five dollar gold pieces are confusing, and undoubtedly one of these will be called in eventually, as there is great liability for error in handling the two, as they are near the same size and it is practically impossible to distinguish one from the other in the dark; but taking it as a whole, Cuba now has the monetary system right up to the minute, and I am informed that they very soon will print their own paper money—just as soon as they can conclude how much they desire to print and arrange to deposit that much gold in New York to insure its par value being maintained.

They are on the gold basis straight and clean. All of this only goes to prove that Cuba is coming. The United States cleaned up her cities and, in fact, renovated the Island from one end to the other and made it possible for a white man to live there just as free from disease as he could live in Florida, and now the Cubans themselves have cleaned up their money proposition until it also is as clean as the money of the United States.

Yours truly, C. R. STEPHENS.

Regarding "Some More Pointers"

Mr. B. Max Mehl,

Fort Worth, Texas.

Referring to the interesting article in your March issue, entitled "Some More Pointers," permit me to suggest that further contributions along this line would be of interest to new as well as old collectors.

A few words concerning relative rarities of some of the United States copper and silver coins would be of value. The number of known specimens of the original 1827 quarter, for instance; also as to the re-strikes of this piece on planchets slightly smaller than the originals, and that the re-strikes are quite as rare as the originals.

Are any uncirculated specimens of the 1823 quarter or 1796 half-cent known? How many specimens of the 1838 half-dollar "O mint" are supposed to exist?

The 1849 half cent with small date is alleged to have been found with both reverses, i. e., small berries and with large berries.

The question in regard to the half dollar of 1853 without rays and arrows, but having the full weight of the 1852, is interesting—I have read of such a

specimen and that the weight of the specimen, if correctly given, would indicate that it could not have been an alteration.

Probably the 1804 dollar has already had more than its share of attention.

For readers interested in the gold series it might be mentioned that the 1822 half eagle is worth more than its face value.

Something touching on the subject matter as indicated would, I feel sure, be interesting reading and might bring out valuable information or discussion.

(Signed) J. W.

The Numismatic Monthly will appreciate any communications on the lines outlined above. We will cheerfully make liberal reimbursements for original articles. It is not necessary that you be a professional writer; simply tell our readers what you know or your ideas on the subject.

A FEW OF THE IMPORTANT PRICES REALIZED AT THE SALE HELD BY B. MAX MEHL FEBRUARY 29, 1916.

1794	Dollar. Fine for coin	$120.00
1795	Dollar. Nearly uncirculated	17.50
1796	Dollar. Practically uncirculated	13.00
1797	Dollar. Uncirculated	15.50
1836	Dollar. C. Gobrecht. F. below base. Brilliant proof	172.00
1838	Dollar. Brilliant proof	310.00
1839	Dollar. Brilliant proof	74.00
1848	Dollar. Brilliant proof	36.00
1849	Dollar. Brilliant proof, sharp	40.00
1851	Dollar. Brilliant proof	120.00
1852	Dollar. Uncirculated, semi-proof surface	95.00
1855	Dollar. Brilliant proof	15.00
1858	Dollar. Brilliant proof	35.00
1859	Dollar. S mint. Uncirculated	10.00
1872	Dollar. S mint. Uncirculated	12.00
1870	Dollar. CC mint. High CC. Uncirculated	11.25
1870	Dollar. CC mint. Close CC. Uncirculated	9.50
1870	Dollar. CC mint. Wide CC. Uncirculated	12.00
1871	Dollar. CC mint. Fine	32.00
1885	Dollar. CC mint. Uncirculated	25.50
1795	$10.00 Gold. Fine	27.25
1798	over '97 $10.00 Gold. Fine	68.00
1854	$3.00 Gold. Dahlonega Mint. Very fine	36.25
1865	$3.00 Gold. Extremely fine	21.75
1881	$3.00 Gold. Fine	12.25
1865	Gold Dollar. Very fine	15.00
1852	$50.00 Gold, 900 THOUS. Fine for coin	142.00
1787	Immunis Columbia Cent. Fine for coin	7 25
1858	Flying Eagle Cent. Pattern. Proof	12.50
1793	Half Cent. Very fine	13.25
1836	Dollar. C. Gobrecht on base. Dulled proof	11.00
1900	Lesher Dollar. Extremely fine	12.25
1793	Large Cent, AMERI. Very good for coin	8.50
1799	Large Cent. Very fair	8.00
1804	Large Cent. Very good	8.00
1856	Cent. Flying Eagle. Proof	16.25
1852	$50.00 Gold. 887 THOUS. Average Slug	100.00

The Sale contained over eleven hundred lots. The Price Lists, showing amounts realized for each lot, may be had for only fifty cents.

Some Denominations of Spanish and Italian Coins---
A Study in Comparative Nomenclature

Summary of an Address Delivered before the American Numismatic Society of New York

By ALBERT R. FREY.

At a meeting of the American Numismatic Society, held at its building on Thursday evening, March 2nd, Mr. Albert R. Frey, the well known Numismatist, read a paper entitled "Some Denominations of Spanish and Italian Coins, a Study in Comparative Nomenclature."

The following is a summary of Mr. Frey's remarks, which were much enjoyed by the large gathering present:

It is a very interesting study to investigate the origin of the names applied to coins. Their denominations are frequently based on their weight, or on the title or name of the monarch, or on popular sentiment, or on devices represented on the coins.

Metrology has furnished some of the following names of coins: .

The Libra of the ancients has become the Lira first issued by the Venetian Doges, and similarly a base silver coin called Liretta. The modern Lira, of course, is a misnomer. The Spanish Peso is literally "A weight," the weight of an ounce, first used in Spain in the middle of the 16th century, and is equal to 8 Reals, and now to 100 Centavos. The Oncetta of Naples, the Oncia of Sicily, and the Onza, a gold coin, are all derived from the ounce.

A large number of names of coins are explained as fractions or multiples of other coins. Thus we have the Dobla or the Doubloon, which is equal to two Escudos. Similar coins are the Duplone, the Doppia, and the Duetto of Florence. Other multiple numbers are the Cinquana of 5 Grani; the Quintuplo of five Ducats, and the figure 10 gives the name to the Denaro, Deniers and Dinnario. The Vinteno is a piece of 20 Soldi and the Cinquenti a piece of 50 Reals of Segovia showing the view of the Aqueduct.

As for fractions, the Peseta is a "small piece," or part of a Peso; similar coin names are the Pezza de La Rosa, and the Pizziolo, a small copper coin of Malta. The Minuto is a small Billon coin. The Baggatino is a Venetian copper, "something small." The Medio is ½ Real and the Quarto is ¼ Real. In these fractional coin names the identity of the piece from which they are derived sometimes becomes lost, as for instance there are known so-called pieces of four quartos. The Quartino or Quatrino is a papal gold coin.

The Ochino is a coin of the 16th century. The Centesimo or Centime or Centimo represent the 1/100th part. The Grano is the 1/100th of a Ducato of Sicily.

Names after cities and provinces have also furnished denominations of coins such as the Castellano of Castile, the Florin of the 13th century from the Republic of Florence; the Genovino of Genoa; the Bolognino, a one-half Grosso of Bologna; the Ungaro, named from the Hungarian type of gold coin, showing the Madonna and Child; and the Tornesi, equal to the Gros Tournois of Tours.

Names and ranks of rulers have given the following names to coins:

The Spanish Reale, from "King," "Nummus Realis"; the Sovrano, from

"Sovereign"; the Papito, a papal coin; the Julio and Paulo, from the Popes of the same names; the Philippus Daaler for Brabant and Flanders, as well as the Philippo of Milan, for King Philip; the Alfonsino of Oragon; the Henrique for Henry IV of Spain; the Carlino; the Mocenigo, and the Lira Tran, from names of Venetian doges; the San Martino, Ambrosino and Madonnino, named after the Saints of the same names.

Ecclesiastical matters gave the names to the coins known as the Crosazzo; the Corona and the Schiavarino, from the cross, crown, and keys and Tiara. Similarly the Escude, which now is only in use in Chile, derives its name from the shield.

The composition and general appearance of a coin have produced the names "Grosso, a "thick coin," also known as the Groschen or Groat; the Bronzo, a small copper coin of Messina; the Mistura, an Italian Billon coin of mixed composition; the Blanco, a Spanish coin of the 14th to 16th century; and the Albulo and Albus, from their white appearanee; the Bajocco, from the bay color.

Names derived from the usual conditions of a coin are the Macuquino, a Spanish "cut" coin; and the Ruspone, from its "well preserved" condition.

From the names of animals we have the Caballo; the Leone of Veniee; the Ermelino, named after the Ermine; the Aguila d'Oro, from the eagle; and the Venetian Osella, from the bird.

The legends on the coins have given the names Ducato or Ducat; the Gracia; the Publica; and the Resellado, because it was re-coined.

Among the miscellaneous denominations are the Testone, named after the head, La Tessa; the Stellino, after the star; the Colonnato, from tht pillars of Hercules; the Carrarino, from the Carra or Cart; the Capellone, a silver coin of Francesco d'Este, from "hair." The Barbone, a 17th century coin of the Republic of Lucca, from the bearded head of a Saint.

The address was followed by some interesting discussion among the members present regarding the origin and the meaning of a number of names of coins, especially American ones.

DEATH OF MR. W. T. SMITH

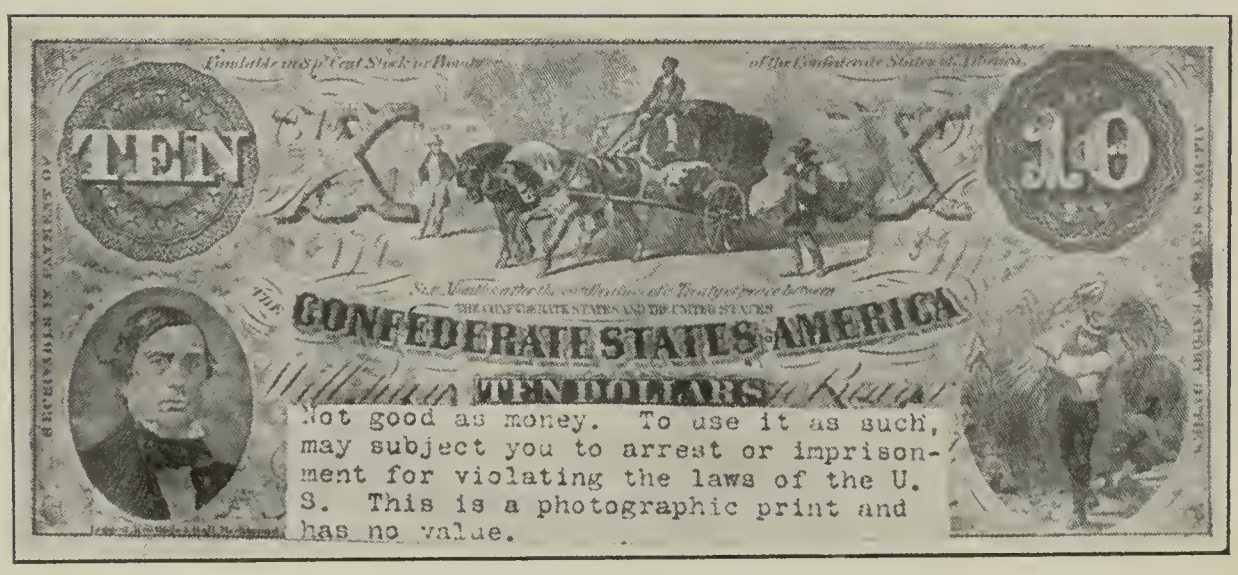
Many collectors will hear with great regret of the sudden death of Mr. W. T. Smith of Sarnia, Ontario, on March 3rd. Mr. Smith was one of the most widely known Canadian numismatists. He was one of the first to join the A. N. A. and retained membership in it for many years. Very few collectors knew and studied coins as Mr. Smith did, and he retained his interest in them till the last. With his genial and courteous disposition "W. T." was a universal favorite with all those privileged to enjoy his friendship, and his passing away will be felt a personal loss. S. S. HEAL.

QUESTION AS TO WHOSE PORTRAIT IS SHOWN ON CONFEDERATE CURRENCY.

Numismatists who have obtained Confederate Currency of 1861 are debating whose likeness appears on the $10 notes known as the "Oldham" notes.

For fifty years it was believed the engraving was the picture of Williamson Oldham of Austin, Texas, who was a delegate to the Confederate Convention at Montgomery, Alabama, and later a Confederate Senator. A. S. Oldham, his son, who lives in Austin, Texas, says the picture is not that of his father.

This inquiry seems to have extended over the country. The NUMISMATIC MONTHLY is in receipt of the following "Reward Notice" gotten out by Mr. H. D. Allen, 21 Winter Street, Boston. We are pleased to print it in full as folows:


TEN
10
CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA
TEN DOLLARS
Not good as money. To use it as such, may subject you to arrest or imprisonment for violating the laws of the U. S. This is a photographic print and has no value.

A Mystery of the South

Above is a half-tone reproduction of a Confederate $10.00 bill of Sept. 2, 1861, and is made for historical and research purposes only. The picture in the lower left corner has gone unchallenged for 50 years as a likeness of Hon. Williamson S. Oldham, a Senator representing the State of Texas in the Confederate Congress. It is NOT Mr. Oldham. I call on all loyal southern people, librarians (State, City or Town), historians, teachers, students, members of all Confederate Veteran Societies, all men who were at Richmond in 1861 (and maybe employed in the Confederate Treasury), anyone who knows any of the descendants of Leggett, Keatinge & Ball, who engraved the bill (either at Richmond or Columbia, S. C.), and last but not least, the great army of newspaper reporters who often do things when all others fail, to take up and conduct a vigorous search, in an endeavor to find out who this party was, and thus solve the great mystery.

To the first person who sends me definite proof, I will pay a reward of $10.00 and an extra $10.00 to any one sending me a small card photograph, exactly duplicating the likeness on the bill. All librarians receiving this circular will please post on bulletin board. A copy of this bill will be mailed to anyone on receipt of a two-cent stamp.

H. D. ALLEN, 21 Winter Street, Boston, Mass.

Sing Sing Prison's Token Money

A new currency, for use in a manner unlike that of any other money in this country, and perhaps in any other part of the world, is the token money recently put in circulation among the inmates of Sing-Sing (N. Y.) Prison. This issue of money and the system under which it is used originated with the Warden, Thomas Mott Osborne, and was put in effect October 1 last.

The money is in the form of $10, $5 and $1 notes, and 50 cents, 25 cents, dimes, nickels and cents. The notes have a wide colored border and the wording "Do Good—Make Good. Sing Sing Prison." In the center is a circle with the letters "M. W. L." (Mutual Welfare League). The denominations are expressed in the two upper corners by the words "One," "Five," "Ten." The coins have the word expressing the denomination within a circle on one side; above, "Sing Sing"; below, "Prison." The other side has the letters "M. W. L." within a circle; above, "Do Good"; below, "Make Good." The words "Cents" or "Dollars" do not appear on either the coins or notes. The three highest denominations of the tokens are struck in aluminum, and the two lowest in brass.

With their new token money the prisoners will be called upon to live in Sing-Sing upon very much the same plan as if outside its walls. Under the system each prisoner receives $1 in the token money for a day's pay for his

labor. Out of this he must pay for everything he receives from the State, including cell rent and his meals. Cells upon the different tiers have been given different rental prices ranging from $1 to $1.60 a week, and each prisoner may select a cell on the tier the price of which he feels inclined to pay.

A peculiar part of the Sing-Sing monetary system is that hereafter men will not be allowed to buy tobacco or other commodities from the Mutual Welfare League store with the regular money of Uncle Sam alone, but will have to put up an equal amount of the Sing-Sing money for the purchase. This feature of the system will have the effect, it is said, of equalizing the opportunities of prisoners of all classes in the matter of purchases. Prisoners who have well-to-do friends, or were themselves well-to-do before going to Sing-Sing, have had an advantage over the poorer men, and it has caused discontent. Whether these men worked or not, they were able to receive money from the outside with which to buy the luxuries allowed.

A good many intricate problems connected with the system are expected to arise, but these will be met and adjusted as they appear.

Specimens of the token-money have already found their way outside the prison walls. A five-cent piece was recently found in the contribution box of the Greensburg Presbyterian Church, Dobbs Ferry, by the treasurer, when counting up the evening's offering.

—The Numismatist.

COINS AND MEDALS
In the Government Collection at Philadelphia

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By M. SORENSEN.

The Numismatic Collection of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia contains a large number of coins, medals and tokens.

Of colonial coins there are only 28 pieces, and from the time of treaty of peace to the adoption of the constitution (1783-1789) 18. Beginning with the "Fugio" Cent from 1787 until the establishment of the mint at Philadelphia in 1793, 48 coins and tokens. From that noteworthy period in our history until 1914 there are 1730 different U. S. coins and patterns. In this number are included 70 different gold coins of private issues between 1830 and 1861, and 31 one-cent tokens between 1834 and 1841. In the collection is also a silver half dollar, issued by the Confederate States, and a Confederate copper cent of private origin.

From Canada, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, etc., 73 coins and tokens.

Of Mexican coins and necessity pieces from 1521 up to the present time there are 552 numbers.

From the different Central and South American Republics are found the following numbers:

Central American Republic (1821-1839)	11
Guatemala	59
Honduras	35
Nicaragua	14

Salvador	14
Costa Rica	51
South America under Spain	169
Republic of Panama	7
Colombia	89
Venezuela	32
Ecuador	31
Peru	125
Bolivia	77
Chile	83
Argentine Republic	60
Uruguay	13
Paraguay	7
Brazil	153
British Honduras	10
British Guiana	18
French Guiana	8
Hayti	58
San Domingo	15
British Possessions	33
French Possessions	16
Danish Possessions	21
Spanish Possessions	10
Dutch Possessions	6
Philippine Islands under U. S.	59

Of the various U. S. medals awarded by Congress, struck for different occasions, etc., there are in all 469 pieces. One medal in this collection deserves special mention for its striking beauty of design and workmanship. It is the medal struck for the Centennial Anniversary of the Inauguration of Washington as President of the United States, 1889; designed by St. Gaudens and Martiny. Its size is 114 mm. Although this medal is cast, Washington's features are exceedingly well brought out.

The collection also contains a large and very representative assortment of antique Greek, Roman and Byzantian coins—1481 different pieces.

Foreign coins of modern times are very numerous. England, Scotland and Ireland are represented by 461 coins; Netherlands, 129; Belgium, 32; Scandinavian Countries, 229; German States, 777; Hungary, 60; Austria, 57; Switzerland, 107; France, 225; Italy, 291; Spain, 130; Portugal, 72; Bulgaria, 16; Roumania, 14; Serbia, 14; Greece, 15; Russia, 186; Poland, 70; Turkey, 121.

There are 36 coins of seven African states and 64 of European colonies. Asiatic states are represented by 52 coins, Indian states by 43, Corea by 19, Japan by 73, and China by 418 coins. Coins of British and other European possessions are also well represented

Altogether the collection consists of 10,872 coins, medals and tokens.

Continental Currency

A few days ago a correspondent of the New York Tribune discovered a six dollar Continental bill which was gravely asserted to be worth a thousand dollars(?). After the matter was printed a reporter was dispatched to our office to ascertain the truth of the story and was informed that the Continental bills are not redeemable and that the market price is about 25 cents. Of course all this could have been learned from our catalogue or by a call on the telephone. This would have prevented the publication and saved us from answering innumerable inquiries. calls and letters. Continental and Colonial bills form a very interesting collection and it is surprising how little interest is given to them by the general collector. The United States from 1775 to 1779 issued large numbers of bills of various denominations from one-sixth of a dollar to eighty dollars, twenty different values in eleven distinct dates. All except the series issued at Yorktown can now be purchased at prices ranging from twenty-five cents to two dollars each. They certainly make a grand historic collection. Should the amateur desire to extend his collection, he can add the issues of the various States. some of which were guaranteed by the United States. These are mostly more difficult to collect as some were issued as early as 1708. The following states comprise the series: Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, and Vermont. The last being the only state to redeem its notes, with the results that its bills issued for a few cents are now worth at least twenty-five dollars each, whilst those of its contemporaries sell at from twenty-five cents upwards according to state and date of issue. Their collection is eminently worthy the attention of Americans.

—J. W. Scott.

Rochester Numismatic Association

The 95th meeting was called to order Tuesday, March 7th, 1916; F. B. King, President, presiding. Members present: Messrs. King, Raymond, Plumb, Woolsey, Wild, Bauer, Emerich, Handler, L. G. Amberg W. H. Amberg, Merritt, Stanley, Koeb, Williams, Tillotson, Yawger, Borradaile.

On motion of Mr. Merritt, our official 1915 medals were presented to the Rochester Municipal Museum and American Numismatic Society of New York.

Application for membership was received from Mr. Gene Maunovry.

A copy of the Treatise on United States Half Cents was received from the author, Mr. Theo J. Venn of Chicago.

Mr. Wayte Raymond of New York was present as visitor.

The 96th meeting was held Tuesday, March 21st, 1916; F. B. King, President, presiding. Members present: Messrs. Bauer, Maunovry, Simmonds, W. H. Amberg, Koeb, Borradaile, Plumb, King, Moore, Merritt, Stanley, Bunnell, Yawger, Tillotson, L. G. Amberg.

Mr. Maunovry and Mr. F. R. Simmonds were elected to membership.

Mr. Borradaile displayed samples of his coin trays, especially made for our anniversary medals. After the meeting an auction sale of one hundred lots was disposed of.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

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THE RAREST OF ALL

Mexican Rebel Coins

Zapata *Two Peso* Piece

1914. Sun in splendor above active volcano. Around, "REFORMA, LIBERTAD, JUSTICA Y LEY," above sun, 1 ORO: O, 595. Rev., eagle with snake standing on cactus similar to regular issue; above, REPUBLICA MEXICANA; below, DOS PESOS. GRO. 1914. Wide borders, milled edge.

Until very recently these coins were entirely unknown. These were struck from confiscated silver and, as will be seen from the inscription, Zapata intended to increase the monetary value of his coins by bringing the value of a single Peso up to 2 Pesos, and, of course, forcing their circulation into the territory which he controlled.

Very Rare. Price, $5.00

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

VOLUME VII.

NUMBER 5
WHOLE NUMBER 77

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION

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MAY, 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. MAX MEHL

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

After All, A Great Deal Depends On What "They Say"

Mr. B. Max Mehl,
Fort Worth, Texas.
Dear Mr. Mehl:---

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It may seem strange that a man who is 33 miles from New York should go to Texas to do business, but I made no mistake and the whole transaction went through as smoothly as though we were next door to each other."

F. J. Carpenter,
Chappaqua, N. Y.

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher
301-304 Commonwealth Building, Fort Worth, Texas

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Vol. VII. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, MAY, 1916 No. 5

With The Editor

ANCIENT COINS THE BRIDGE OF CENTURIES

One interesting result of the war in the Balkans and the Far East has been the increased interest taken in ancient Greek coins, both Imperial and autonomous of the districts affected. The ordinary collector or friend, to whom may be shown a coin of Cephalonia issued B. C. 400, will take far more interest in it if told it is from the Ionian Islands, recently occupied by the Allies. And a coin of Serdica in Thrace, with a standing figure of Equity on reverse, issued by Caracalla seventeen hundred years ago, becomes of greater interest when we remember that Serdica is now—Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria. It is a long step—from Caracalla to Ferdinand of today—but the coin serves as a bridge over the centuries past and connects the two men. The large bronze issued at Viminacium in Moesia Superior, by Gordianus Pius and his successor Philip are especially interesting. The reverse shows the Province, personified as a woman standing between a lion and a bull. She points her right hand at the bull, and her left at the lion. Viminacium is now Widdin—in Servia, and Servia is today—even as she was then, beset with difficulties on either side. A coin of Thessalonica issued nineteen centuries ago, having the head of Julius Caesar on one side and Augustus on the other—reminds us that the Salonica of today—now occupied by the Allies—is no mushroom city grown up in a night.

ANOTHER LAUREL FOR MATRIMONY AND NUMISMATICS

We would strongly advise every unmarried collector to get married at once, and start a bank account. A Georgia correspondent is enthusiastic on the subject, and claims it is a great success from every point of view. Recently his wife visited a bank for the purpose of drawing out some money. He instructed her to ask for two and a half gold dollar pieces. She did so, and on his return from the office, after the day's doings had been talked over, he proceeded, like a true corrector, to examine the gold for rarities. "Imagine my surprise," he writes, "when I discovered a very fine 1854 piece of the D mint." This is a result of having a wife and a bank account. A word to the wise is sufficient.

We were sorry to read of the "big broker" movement in the first page of our April issue. It's all right to collect coins but no man should go "broke" over it. Still we look upon the printer as a man and a brother, and we may be on a jury again some day. And if a printer is ever brought before us—well, we will forget it, and temper justice with mercy.

LEST WE FORGET

There is some danger that the older works on our cents and half-cents are being forgotten today, especially by the younger collectors. The monograph on this series published in 1878, by the elder Frossard, is still of value to the collector. It covers the period between 1793 and 1857, and does so in an able manner. Frank D. Andrews describes in his book, published in 1883, over 400 varieties of the cents from 1816 to 1857. He describes minute differences in obverse and reverse. He gives twenty varieties of the 1817 cent, and nineteen and eighteen respectively of the 1853 and 1834. Doughty's pamphlet (1890) describes minutely 225 different varieties of cents from 1793 to 1814 inclusive, giving exact measurements of the different details and lines to mark the differences. There are also two tables of varieties with degree of rarity, from 1816 to 1857 not dscribed.

"SPOILS OF WAR'

A Canadian correspondent informs us that quite a few of their soldiers returning from the various fronts where they have seen service, have brought back with them coins from several countries. He had seen coins from Egypt, Persia and Turkey. One of the most interesting was a Ptolemaic bronze of Cleopatra. This, however, was acquired by purchase in Cairo. Coins of Belgium, England, France and Holland are however the most in evidence.

A WELCOMED CHANGE

A new series of designs for our silver coinage may be confidently expected after the close of the fiscal year.

The impression in mint circles is that in the absence of some demand, now unanticipated, there will be no 1916 silver coinage from the old designs and that the new designs will not be introduced until after July 1st.

Those interested in the improvement of coin designs should be at work.

REAL NUMISMATIC SERVICE

Speaking of the "Big Brother" movement among young collectors, we are in receipt of a newspaper report of an address delivered by our friend, Mr. Carl Wurtzbach, of Lee, Mass., before a large gathering of young people of his county.

Mr. Wurtzbach is not only well versed in the subject of Numismatics, but has the ability to tell others of its historical interests. The Science of Numismatics can only be advanced by not only assisting those who are already interested, but by spreading its interest among the uninitiated.

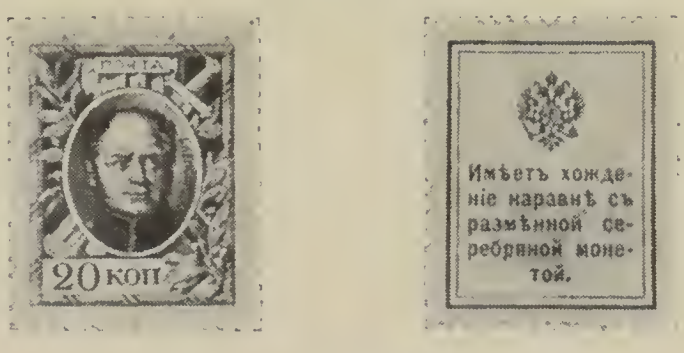
SUBSIDIARY COINAGE

Extra Silver and Stamps as Coins

The Russian Council of Ministers at a recent sitting decided to increase the coinage of small silver money to meet the need for subsidiary coins. Pending this, the Ministry of Finance has decided to issue stamps of corresponding denominations which shall be legal tender on a par with subsidiary silver coins. The Government communique on this subject reads as follows:

During the present war, in Russia as also in other belligerent States, there has been disclosed, under the influence of various causes, a shortage of subsidiary silver coins in circulation. Foreseeing the growth of the demand for small monetary tokens, the Ministry of Finance at the very commencement of the war set about the increased coinage of exchange money, considerably increasing the orders for silver coin given to the Mint. At the same time the State Bank gave extensive help in meeting the increased demand of the population for subsidiary silver coins, having issued the latter for the duration of the war up to August 1, 1915, to the amount of some 30,000,000 roubles (£3,160,000), which exceeds more than ten times the issues of such coins for preceding years (1911—2,400,000 roubles; 1912—2,100,000 doubles; 1913—3,100,000 roubles). Nevertheless the demand for subsidiary silver coins continues almost everywhere and has latterly attained exceptionally large dimensions. The issue of subsidiary silver coins during the month of August alone amounts to more than 13,00,000 roubles (£1,372,000).

The shortage and disappearance from circulation of small exchange coins cannot be made good with sufficient rapidity by means of their increased issue, owing to obstacles of a technical character.



Issue of Special Stamps.

In order to eliminate the continued shortage of exchange money and satisfy the large demand therefor on the part of the population, the Ministry of Finance has decided to issue temporarily, until the Mint shall have prepared a sufficient quantity of coins, exchange paper tokens (stamps), for which various municipal administrations have already petitioned.

The Ministry of Finance is now setting about the issue of exchange stamps, availing itself of the existing sample of postage stamps familiar to the population, issued on the day of the jubilee of the reign of the House of Romanov, for values of 20, 15 and 10 kopeks (5d, 3¾d, and 2½ d), printed for convenience of circulation on thicker paper and bearing on the reverse

side in contradistinction to ordinary postage stamps, the explanatory inscription, "Having circulation on a par with silver subsidiary coins."

The said exchange stamps are equivalent to subsidiary silver coins as legal tender for payment. Like the later, the compulsory acceptance of exchange stamps by private persons is limited to the sum of three roubles (6 s.) for each payment. Government offices, however, are bound to accept them for all payments to an unlimited amount. —London Times.

THE PURCHASING VALUE OF COINS OF THE CLASSIC PERIOD

Address Delivered Before the New York Numismatic Club

By EDWARD T. NEWELL.

So often certain of my friends, on showing them a few ancient coins, have asked the very natural question what such and such a coin would buy two thousand years ago. It therefore occurred to me that this might make a subject of considerable interest to my brother numismatists, and the little research it entailed would put me in a position to answer this question in a more satisfactory way the next time I was asked. My first visit to the library was a rather rude awakening. I found that the student of Ancient numismatics is so taken up with the attribution of coins, with the study of weights and types, and with writing volumes on the extraordinary beauty of Greek coins, that he has contributed little or nothing to the interesting problem of what one of his wonderful coins would buy twenty-two centuries ago. The student of economics, I thought, would surely be interested in this aspect—but I had

completely forgotten that he was more or less of a theorist. He will write tomes—thick ones—on the theory of money, the theory of commerce, currency, value, exchange, etc., etc.—he will even plot beautiful and intricate curves of the rise and fall, progress and retrogression of all these things, but never will he give us any concrete facts and data as to just what the ancients had to pay (in correct terms of our money) for the every-day commodities of life—an aspect of numismatics which must always have considerable human interest for us all, especially today when soaring prices bring this subject so obtrusively and aggressively to our attention. I had not intended boring you with this lengthy preamble, but I felt some apology was due for the many discrepancies and vagaries of the following little discourse. The material has

had to be brought together from the works of numismatists, archaeologists, historians, economists, and passing and quite incidental remarks of ancient writers—this paper should have been the work of several years and not of the few days that have been at my disposal at this very busy time of year.

Now the majority of the learned and ponderous reference books to which one would naturally refer, give us the illuminating information that a drachma was worth about 18 cents, a Roman Denarius about 14 to 16 cents. Undeniably true, when these coins are referred to the purchasing power of a similar quantity of metal today. But it is equally true that an ancient Roman, generally speaking, could buy much more with his denarius than we can today with our 15 cents—even if we should exclusively patronize Woolworth's Emporium.

It is evident that the intrinsic value of money at a given period is the power it confers on its owner of procuring various commodities able to satisfy his wants or add to his comforts. Now wheat, which has ever been the fundamental and principal sustenance of the workman, regulates naturally the value of work and the commodities which are the products of this work. Therefore it is by the average price of wheat at any one period that one can know and appreciate the intrinsic value of money, at that particular period. When with one ounce of silver one could buy as much wheat as one must now pay four or five ounces for, then this ounce of silver placed at the disposal of its possessor as much work or as many products of work as now-a-days a weight of silver four or five times as large would do. Down to about the middle of the 16th

Century we find that the average price of wheat varied but slightly when we make allowances for local and temporary conditions, for the slight changes in the output of the precious metals and in the amount of these in actual circulation at various periods of history. The discovery of America disorganized to an enormous extent the proportion which from the earliest times had existed between money on the one hand, and all other natural productions on the other. Immense quantities of the precious metals were now brought to light and dumped upon Europe with a comparatively small amount of initial expense and trouble. Work is the first measure of value. It is the common price for which nature sells us all that we demand of her. Every production has for its intrinsic value the quantity of work which has been necessary to spend, either to find it, or to produce it and bring it to the common market. The silver and gold of America, arrived in Europe, could not represent here more than the amount of work spent on their extraction, preparation, and transport. Therefore the precious metals arriving from America soon lowered to their own level the value of the metals existing in the Old World, although these were the products of infinitely greater work and expense. From about 1520, gold and silver—in other words, money—were growing commoner, while generally

speaking other products remained more or less stationary. This naturally and immediately resulted in a rapid rise in prices all over Europe, and they have never, for this and other reasons too numerous to relate here, gone back to the low levels of Antiquity. Money, speaking in terms of what it can purchase, is less valuable now than before the discovery of America. It is therefore the greatest fallacy to translate ancient prices into modern money unless we take into the strictest account the present comparatively low value of gold and silver.

To form a true conception of the riches of the Ancients and the intrinsic value of their money it is evidently necessary to know the average prices of wheat in silver. For wheat is a commodity whose intrinsic value has always suffered the least variations (barring, of course, purely temporary fluctuations due to seasons more or less favorable). Roman historians furnish us the best and most complete sources to obtain this knowledge. Pliny, according to Varro (lib. 18, cap. 3) tells us that at the time when L. Metellus brought the Carthaginian elephants to Rome (250 B. C.) a modius (a Roman measure of capacity=18½ quarts) of wheat, a measure of wine, 10 lbs. of oil, 12 lbs. of meat, 30 lbs. of dry figs, all sold for the same price—namely, one AS. Here it must be remembered that the Romans in their markets were accustomed to count not by the AS of the time (which in this case went 10 to the Denarius) but by the Old AS of 12 ounces which at this time (250 B. C.) was equal to 6 common asses or 3/5 of a Denarius. Hence, in 250 B. C. the modius of wheat

was sold for 12 ounces of bronze. Fifty years later (552 A. U. C. or 201 B. C.) Livy (lib. 31, cap. 50) tells us that a modius was worth 2 sestertii, that is 8 Asses—an increase in price of two Asses. The prices continued to rise, for Polybius, who lived after the passing of the Lex Papiria 191/190 B. C., says that the average price of a modius of wheat at Rome was 4 Obols, which at that time was about 10 Asses. Cicero in his speeches against Verres gives us the prices fixed by decree of the Senate for the wheat which the Praetor was to buy in Sicily. The regular wheat was to be paid for at 3 Sestertii the modius, the requisitioned wheat at 4. The Senate evidently tried to treat the Sicilians justly, for Verres himself, in some letters to his friends, stated that the price for a modius of wheat in Sicily was really only 2 Sestertii. A Sestertius at this time was worth 4 Asses; hence we see that the price of wheat had again risen in terms of current money. Evidently as Rome emerged from a comparatively small and self-supporting city-state into a large and populous world-center, the influx of money, the increasing population, and the inadequacy of near-by food sources to supply the demand, gradually caused a slight but continued rise in the price of the staple food.

After the burning of Rome, which destroyed the public granaries, Nero, to appease the people, distributed wheat at the most moderate price—three Sestertii. Martial in one of his epigrams speaks of 4 Sestertii as being a fairly high price for a modius. From all this we learn that for the first century B. C. and the second century A. D. the average price of wheat at Rome was about 3 Sestertii, while 4 Sestertii was considered rather dear. At 3 Sestertii the modius (that is 18½ quarts) it works out that the average price of a bushel of wheat in Nero's time was 21 cents in our silver money. Compare this with today, when a bushel of wheat sells for about $1.16, and we see that in Nero's time money was worth about five times as much as it is today. In the earlier days of Rome, say about 250 B. C., money was worth about nine times as much—though here it must be remembered that in the more advanced and prosperous East, at the same time, money was less valuable than in the poorer and more backward town of Rome. The price of wheat, however, did not remain stationary, but as the years went by continued steadily to increase, until in Diocletian's reign it had reached 33⅓ cents the bushel and more. This was not only true of wheat, but also of every other staple commodity as well. Prices were soaring to such an alarming extent that Diocletian about the year 300 A. D. issued his famous decree fixing the maximum price for articles of food, wear, for wages and salaries of all kinds, for transportation. His preamble to the decree makes interesting reading for us of today. Here is Mr. Abbot's translation:

"Who is of so hardened a heart and so untouched by a feeling for humanity that he can be unaware that in the sale of the wares which are exchanged in the market, or dealt with in the daily business of the cities, an exorbitant tendency in prices has spread to such an extent that the unbridled desire of plundering is held in check neither by abundance nor by seasons of plenty,—which indeed is startlingly like some of the diatribes indulged in by some of our popular papers against the Beef Trust or the Cold Storage interests. It is very interesting and instructive to look over some of the maximum prices which Diocletian attempted to establish by law. Thus:

	Diocletian's	1906
Salt, per bushel	74.5 cents	
Rye, per bushel	45.	79.
Beans (ground), per bushel	74.5	45.
Beans (not ground), per bushel	45.	
Lentils, per bushel	74.5	
Oats, per bushel	22.5	
Poppy Seeds, per bushel	1.12	
Mustard, per bushel	1.12	
Wheat, per bushel	33.6	$1.19
Wine (Picenum, Tibur, Falernum), per quart	22.	
Wine (common variety), per quart	6.	
Beer, per quart	1.5	
Oil (first quality), per quart	30.3	
Oil (second quality), per quart	18.	
Vinegar, per quart	4.3	5 to 7
Honey (first quality), per quart	30.3	
Pork, per pound	7.3	
Beef, per pound	4.9	15 to 18
Mutton, per pound	4.9	13 to 16
Ham, per pound	12.	18 to 25
Goose (artificially fed), each	87.	
Goose (not artificially fed), each	43.5	

	Diocletian's	1906
Fowls, per pair	26.	
Pigeons, per lb.	10.5	14 to 18
100 Oysters	43.5	
5 Artichokes	4.3	
5 Lettuce	1.7	
5 Cabbages	1.7	
10 Turnips	1.7	
25 Asparagus	2.6	
20 Large Snails	1.7	
WAGES.		
Barber, per shave	.9	
Gymnastic teacher, per pupil, per month	21.6	
Employee to watch children, per month	21.6	
Advocate or counsel presenting case	$1.09	
Advocate for finishing case	$4.35	
WAGES PER DAY.		
Unskilled workman	10.8	$1.20 to $2.24
Bricklayer	21.6	$4.50 to $6.50
Carpenter	21.6	$2.50 to $4.00
Stonemason	21.6	$3.70 to $4.90
Painter	32.6	$2.75 to $4.00
Transportation 1 person 1 mile	.9	
Rent for wagon 1 mile	5.	
Freight charges (for 1200 lbs.), per mile	8.7	
Writer 100 lines, best writing	10.9	
Writer 100 lines, ordinary writing	8.7	
Writer 100 lines, documents	4.3	
Trousers, per pair	.7	
Felt horse blanket, wt. 3 lbs.	43.5	
Cover, first quality, wt. 3 lbs., with embroidery	$1.09	
Women's slippers, per pair	21.7	
Men's slipers, per pair	26.	
Boots, first quality, per pair	52.	
Soldiers' boots, without nails	43.	
Knight's shoes	30.5	
Senatorial shoes	43.	
Patrician's shoes	65.	
Sewing needle	1.7	
Military mantle (first quality)	$17.40	
Undergarment (first quality)	$8.70	
British mantle and cowl	$26.08	
African mantle and cowl	$6.52	
Storm coat (first quality)	$21.76	
Gallic soldier's cloak	$43.78	
White bed blanket, wt. 12 lbs.	$6.96	
Ordinary cover, wt. 10 lbs.	$2.18	
White silk, per pound	$52 22	
Genuine purple silk, per pound	$652.20	
Genuine purple wool, per pound	$217.40	
Butter	9.8 cents	26 to 32
Fish (River)	7.3	12 to 15
Fish (Sea)	9 to 14	8 to 14
Fish (Salt)	8.3	8 to 15
Eggs, per dozen	5.1	25 to 30

Prof. Frank F. Abbot, who treats very interestingly of Diocletian's decree in his "The Common People of Ancient Rome," says: "We are not so much concerned in knowing the prices of meat, fish, eggs, flour in 301 and 1011 A. D.

as we are in finding out whether Roman or American workmen could buy more of these commodities with the returns of their labor." He then goes on to show that the average expenditure per year among American workmen was $617, of which $266 were used for food, and almost exactly one-third of this expenditure was for meat and fish. He continues: "Now if we take the wages of the Roman carpenter, for instance, as 21 cents per day, and add one-fourth or one-third for his 'keep,' those of the same American workman as $2.50 to $4.00, it is clear that the former received only 1/9 or 1/15 as much as the latter, while the average price of pork, beef, mutton, or ham in 301 A. D. was about one-third of the average of same today. Relative averages of wheat, rye, and barley make a still worse showing for ancient times, while fresh fish was nearly as high in Diocletian's time as it is in our own day. The ancient and modern prices for butter and eggs stand at a ratio of one to three and one to six respectively. For the urban workman, in the fourth century, conditions of life must have been almost intolerable, and it is hard to understand how he managed to keep soul and body together when almost all the nutritious articles of food were beyond his means. The taste of meat, fish, butter, and eggs must have been almost unknown to him."

In this connection it might be of some interest to you to learn what was the pay of the far-famed Roman legionary. Plautus, in his comedy entitled "Mostellaria," act 2, scene 1, has the slave Tranion cry out: "Where are those brave fellows who for three Asses face the javelins in the breach?" The

comedy was written some time anterior to 217 B. C., at which time the As of which he speaks weighed 2 ounces and was equal to 1/10 Denarius. The pay then was 3 Asses per day, and being proverbial was evidently of long standing and goes back to at least the introduction of silver into the Roman coinage. The pay was therefore 90 Asses per month; in other words, 9 Denarii. In 217 B. C. the As was reduced in weight by half, and henceforth 16 were by law to go to the Denarius. It was, however, expressly stipulated that the Roman soldier should not suffer. If he had still been paid 90 Asses he would only have received 5⅝ Denarii, so it was especially stipulated that for a soldier a Denarius should still be given for every 10 Asses (Plin. lib. 33, cap. 3, in militari tamen stipendio semper denarius pro decem assibus datus.")

In 190 B. C. the Lex Papiria reduced the weight of the bronze money by half. To offset this reduction in value, the Roman soldier's pay was increased from 3 to 5 Asses per day. At 150 Asses per month and at the old military exchange of one Denarius for 10 Asses the soldier now received 15 Denarii a month, but as these Denarii had also been slightly reduced in weight and value, it was not so much of an increase in pay as one would suppose at the first glance.

Caesar, on becoming dictator, doubled the pay to 10 Asses per day (Suetonius, Legionibus stipendio in perpetuum duplicavit). But we learn from Hirtius (de bello hispaniensi) that this increase was offset by dispensing with the good old custom of giving the soldier a Denarius for every 10 Asses; henceforth, like other people, 16 Asses went to the Denarius. This, computing 300 Asses the month, gave him 18⅔ Denarii per month. This continued under Tiberius, as we learn from Tacitus, who, in relating the sedition of the legions in Pannonia, makes Percennius, the leader of the revolt, say: "For 10 miserable asses per day you sell your body and soul—do you not deserve to receive an entire Denarius?" As we said above, a Denarius was now equal to 16 Asses, and the brave legionaries were striking for nearly double pay.

Pay was distributed to the soldiers three times a year—once every four months. At 10 Asses a day we have a total for four month of 1200 Asses, or 300 Sestertii, which equals 75 Denarii or 3 Aurei (at 25 Denarii). The distribution of the pay took place with great solemnity. An entire day hardly sufficed to pay a single legion. The legion was drawn up in line of battle, with standards flying; each individual soldier in turn left the ranks, approached the quaestor's desk, received the pay of four months, while an entry placed in his presence opposite his name on the pay roll, confirmed the payment. Josephus (De Bello Judaico, lib. 5, cap. 9) describes the manner in which the army of Titus received its pay during the siege of Jerusalem, beneath the very walls of the doomed city.

Domitian, on the return from his fake campaign against the Germans, in order to increase the belief in his pretended victory, increased the pay of the army from 75 Denarii to 100 Denarii a month; that is, from 3 to 4 Aurei every four months.

In closing I would like to draw your attention to the pay of the Greek hoplite, as it has been preserved to us in various ancient writers. Demosthenes tells us that the Athenian soldier received 4 Obols a day—in the slang of the day to tetrobolize was to go soldiering. This meant rather less than a Stater per month, as the valve of the Stater fluctuated between 20 and 22 Drachmas. Xenophon informs us that the heavy armed soldier received 1 Daric or 1 Cyzicene Stater per month, the captain got 2, and the general 4. In slightly later times the Greek soldier received an Alexander Drachma per day. This was higher pay than the Roman soldier received, but it must be remembered that the Roman soldier was more nearly like the soldiers of countries such as France and Germany who are requisitioned by their government. The Greek soldier (with the exception of a "levee en masse" sometimes resorted to by the various little cities in their internecine wars) resembled more nearly the soldier of England or America who joins the army because he wants to. His pay has necessarily therefore to be higher in order to attract him.

Distribution of the Panama-Pacific Series.

The coins for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition were the first special coins to be produced for an exposition held in a mint city. For this reason, unlike other similar issues, there were no complete or large deliveries to the exposition, supplies being taken over from the local mint as needed, and at no time did the Exposition carry any considerable stock.

The Exposition has now notified the Government that it will not take over any more coins and has requested that the balance be destroyed at the San Francisco Mint. Since the coins can only be delivered to the Exposition, the total distribution of this series will probably be as indicated in the following table:

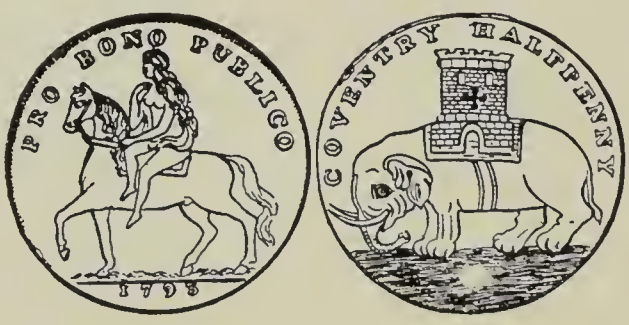
	Coined	Less for Assay	Available	To Be Destroyed	Distribution
Half Dollar	60,000	34	59,966	28,966	31,000
One Dollar	25,034	34	25,000	none	25,000
Two and One-Half Dollar.	10,017	17	10,000	1,900	8,100
Fifty Dollars, Octagonal.	1,509	9	1,500	774	726
Fifty Dollars, Round.	1,510	10	1,500	926	574

From those available for distribution the Exposition now holds a small supply, the sale of which will be continued until about May 15th, after which date, should there be any remainder, it is proposed that they be destroyed. The limited number of the Fifty-Dollar pieces distributed should be a satisfaction to those who have purchased.

The sale of this series, as a revenue producer for the Exposition, has been very successful. The purpose of souvenir coins is not to sell the most coins but to produce the greatest net revenue, and while the number of these coins distributed may, to some, be less than anticipated, profits show that the prices established and maintained produced a greater revenue than would have come from a much larger sale at any less price than would have shown a profit, and no considerable sale is believed to have been possible under the circumstances of delayed production, disappointment in some of the designs (all of which were selected by the Treasury Department without consulting the Exposition) and the hazard of trans-ocean shipments closing foreign markets.

FARRAN ZERBE,
Chief, Coin and Medal Department.

The Romance of an English Penny



Back in the days of long ago,
  The Earl of Coventry
Married a fair maid, as we know,
  Of wondrous form was she;
Fashioned like Venus, perfectly
  Modeled in every part;
So beautiful and fair to see,
  Her charms won every heart.
One day the tenants round about
  This same earl's large estate,
Made secret plans, which soon leaked out,
  Their tax and rents to wait;
And not one groat would they agree
  To pay, or rent to meet,
Till the fair Lady Coventry
  Rode through the village street
Nude, as when born, astride her steed;
  This was the plan they made;
All threats they all refused to heed,
  That their rents must be paid.
Then the earl told of his sad plight,
  Lady Godiva heard,
And informed him it was her right,
  To coax his little world
Of vassals, back to fealty,
  By riding without clothes.
"'Tis better far than bankruptcy,"
  Said she, "for choice of woes."
Her mind made up, no argument
  Could win her from her way;
So to the village, the earl sent
  Command, that on the day
His lady rode, each tenant there
  Must stay inside his cot,
With blinds tight closed, and not one dare
  To peep, or woe his lot.
So thus the lady did the deed,
  Clad only with her hair,
She naked, rode her prancing steed
  Down to the village square,
And back unto the castle went,
  Winning a meed of fame;
For thus she gained her lord his rent,
  And gave a coin its name.
This is the tale and history
  Two noted things came from:
The penny piece of Coventry,
  And name of "Peeping Tom."

F. E. DUTCHER.

New York Numismatic Club

An informal open ladies' meeting of the Club was held at the Park Avenue Hotel on April 14, President Boyd presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Adams, Arnold, Beesley, Belden, Boyd, Carey, Case, Davidson, Frey, Guttag Heaton, Kohler, Low, Miller, Newell, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Valentine Wood and Wormser, and as guest Mr. Sydney P. Noe.

The following ladies lent distinction to the evening by their presence as guests: Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Case, Miss Cook, Mrs. Davidson, Miss Davidson, Miss Frey, Mrs. Guttag, Miss Harris, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Proskey, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Swanson Mrs. Valentine.

After the roll call, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary reported the receipt of two magazines; of a contribution from corresponding member Memmo Cagiati of Nos. 3 and 4 fifth year of his "Supplemento All Opera" "Le Monete del Reame Delle Due Sicilie"; of "Medals and publications of the American Numismatic Society"; of the "Roster of the Society, Sons of the Revolution in the State of California," January, 1916, and of an announcement from the Yale University Press concerning the approaching publication of "the dated Alexander coinage of Sidon & Ake" by our member, Mr. Edward T. Newell.

The Secretary also announced with great regret the death of the father of our President, Mr. Boyd, as well as the death of our active member, Mr. Fred B. Barden, which occurred at Summit, N. J., in the fifty-ninth year of his life during the past month.

The Secretary was instructed to forward a letter of condolence to Mr. Barden's family.

Mr. Smith, in behalf of the Executive Committee, discoursed upon the reason of this evening's open meeting, saying that the committee had decided to show the ladies of the members of the Club what the latter generally do at their meetings, and that while the members pursued the collecting of tokens and coins, the ladies generally were only interested in United States legal tender; but that all the members were glad to see all the ladies present.

A resolution was offered to extend the sympathy and condolencee of the Club to Mr. Boyd and his family in their sad bereavement, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. Cary appearing for the first time, was heartily welcomed by the President.

Mr. Boyd, in behalf of the Publication Committee, reported the delivery of the year book, and it was moved and carried to discharge the Committee with the sincerest thanks of the Club, and that the new Publication Committee hereafter should be in office.

Mr. Edward T. Newell proposed for membership Mr. W. Cedney Beattey.

Mr. Adams offered his resignation as member and chairman of the Publication Committee, and Dr. Valentine was appointed as chairman in his place, and Mr. Belden as additional member.

Mr. Newell then delivered his address on the subject of the evening, "The Purchasing Value of Coins of the Classic Period." (This address appears elsewhere in this issue of the Monthly.—Ed.)

A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Newell for his most interesting and scholarly paper. Several of the members present were then called upon for a few remarks.

Mr. Miller pointed out that in valuing the coins in one's collections, more attention should be paid to their historic and numismatic interest than to their monetary value.

Mr. Low stated that he would be glad to give an address at some future time.

The subject announced for the next meeting, in honor of the occasion of the presence of the ladies at this meeting, is to be "Portraits of Women on Coins and Medals."

Mr. Heaton pointed out that a woman's head always added beauty to coins and medals and that a great many ideas and ideals, such for instance as Liberty, were expressed on coins in the heads and figures of women.

The President then extended a hearty welcome to all the ladies, the guests and the rare attendants among our Club members who were present.

The business meeting then adjourned, and a very sociable time, with visiting and dancing, concluded a most successful evening.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

An Interchangeable Coinage

Canadian money is not regarded with very great favor in the United States. The street railways will not take it, and some stores will not take it, and that means that people distrust the money and feel more or less uncomfortable when they receive any of it, until it is gone again.

The trouble with this money is that when one exchanges it at the banks for American money, there is a discount demanded. It is not quite the equivalent of the American money of the same denomination, and therefore, though it is as much received as this, is bound to be in disfavor among those who must handle large quantities of it.

But why shouldn't American money pass current in Canada at its face value? And why should not Canadian money be received here at its face value? Lots of trouble would be avoided, especially in the states which are anywhere near the border, and perhaps trade between the two countries, being made a little easier, would be stimulated.

The Ottawa Journal has recently made the suggestion, which has been taken up by the Toronto Journal, that Canada and the United States shall agree to coin—separately and of distinctly national character each—5, 10, 25 and 50 cent pieces, and perhaps silver dollars and gold 5 and 10 and 20 dollar pieces, of the same metal, and make each legal tender in the other country. In fact, these papers even go far enough to suggest that the Dominion government shall mention the matter to Washington.

The thing is perfectly feasible. Such an arrangement has been worked elsewhere. The Latin monetary union in Europe, including France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland and Greece, has such an arrangement and it works perfectly. If five countries can carry through such a scheme without serious trouble, two countries with so many interests in common as the United States and Canada should certainly be able to do it.

Naturally somebody will have to start the thing. It cannot start itself, and if no suggestion comes from Canada, it would not be beneath the dignity of the United States to make the suggestion.

CALIFORNIA GOLD

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By M. SORENSEN.

In my boyhood days a certain glory was still hovering about the name California, and the two words "California" and "Gold" seemed in some mysterious way to belong together. I had read accounts of rich strikes of precious metal—of the adventurous life of the gold diggers. That such reading influenced a youth's imagination was no wonder. Though later years more sober judgment has changed much of this—one thing is sure: It had a lasting effect. Whenever I read of California the thought is carried back to the wonderful days of '49.

The Panama-Pacific Exposition has tended to revive this. It has given us a new octagonal $50 gold piece, besides a pretty fac-simile souvenir of the $50 gold piece of 1850.

It may not be amiss to give a few notes on the early days in California and its gold, chiefly after White: Money and Banking.

On the 19th day of January, 1848, James Wilson Marshall found a small lump of gold in the tail-race of Sutter's sawmill in El Dorado County, California. This discovery led to a search in the bed of the stream and in the adjoining ground, which was found to contain rich deposits of the precious metal. The news spread like wildfire throughout California and the Pacific coast of North and South America, and later to the Atlantic States, and all

civilized countries, leading to a great immigration of gold-hunters. The production of the metal in California alone in 1850 was $36,000,000, being equal to the annual average of the whole world during the preceding decade. It reached $56,000,000 in 1851.

When California was first invaded by gold seekers there were a few Mexican coins in circulation there, not nearly sufficient to answer the needs of the growing community. The immigrants brought more or less metallic

money with them. The smaller coins were those of many different countries, chiefly Spanish. For want of sufficient coins, the first trading was done largely with gold dust, sometimes by weighing it in scales, sometimes by guesswork. A "pinch" of gold dust about as large as a pinch of snuff had a current value and was a common measure in places where there were no means of weighing. At a public meeting in San Francisco, September 9, 1848, it was resolved by unanimous vote that $16 per ounce was a fair price for placer gold. This rate was at once adopted in all business transactions. By and by private coiners of gold came into the field. The Legislature was at first alarmed by the appearance of these unaccustomed pieces, and passed a law to prohibit their circulation and to close the shops where they were made. It was soon found, however, that they were a great convenience. Then the law was repealed. Several establishments immediately went to work assaying and coining gold. One of these was at Salt Lake City, whose productions were known

as Mormon coins. Only one of these establishments, that of Moffat & Co., of San Francisco, conformed exactly to the government standard of weight and fineness. All the others, however, including the Mormon ones, circulated freely, and were received on deposit by the banking houses until the government sat up an assay office and began to stamp octagonal pieces of $50, called "slugs," and afterwards those of $20 each. This was done in 1851. The San Francisco mint was not ready till 1854. The Moffat coins continued to circulate after the mint had gone into operation, since everybody had confidence in their goodness. It is estimated that $50,000,000 of private coins were struck. They were received in the Atlantic cities at their assay value only.

As is well known, California was not the only place where private concerns coined gold. Between the years 1830 and 1860 there were numerous private manufactures in the United States. They were situated in Georgia, North Carolina, California, Orgon, Utah and Colorado. The mint at Philadelphia has upwards of 60 specimens of private gold coins. They turned out coins of varying goodness, all purporting, however, to be of the weight and fineness of the government's coins. They were not counterfeits. They did not imitate the designs on the coins of the United States. Many of them bore the names and places of business of the manufacturers. They were ingots purporting to be worth the number of dollars stamped on them. However, the value of the $5.00 pieces ranged from $4.36 to $5.00. The government did not forbid the private coining of gold until June 8, 1864.

A.Feld
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An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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JUNE-JULY, 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
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Vol. VII. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JUNE-JULY, 1916 Nos. 6-7

With The Editor

Mr. Newell's address on "The Purchasing Value of Coins of the Classic Period" is one of the most valuable and interesting ever read before a numismatic club in this country. The New York Club is to be congratulated on having among its members one capable of handling the subject in so masterly a way. We commend the paper to the attention of all interested in the study of Roman coins. The High Cost of Living would seem to have been a factor to be reckoned with in Diocletian's day, even as it is at the present time. The table of maximum wages and prices quoted by him give an idea of the hardship the unskilled workman of that period must have experienced in making both ends meet. His wage of ten cents a day seems very low to us. One pound of beef and a quart of beer costing over one half of the day's pay, it would be safe to assume that he was a vegetarian and abstainer from necessity if not from choice.

Roughly speaking—the sestertius, or large bronze, was equal to four cents of our money. The denarius about sixteen cents. What we commonly call the middle or second bronze had two distinct values, though of the same size and weight. The as—of red copper—being equal to one cent, and the dupondius of yellow brass, a mixture of four-fifths of copper and one-fifth of zinc, was equal to two cents. From the time of Nero, the as generally bore a laureated or bare head, while the dupondius shows a radiated crown.

In the table of values, that of "Trousers, per pair," should be 8.7 instead of as given. These useful garments seem to have been comparatively cheap; probably the number of pockets was less than it is today.

A Michigan correspondent asks: "Where do the Columbia farthings belong?" That is a big conundrum, like the ancient query: "Who struck Billy Patterson?" From whence they come, and whither they go—no man knoweth. They are generally attributed to the United States of Columbia, and were so catalogued in the sale of the Cutting Collection. At this sale seventeen pieces, all different varieties, formed one lot. Fifteen had the bust to right—and two, to left. There are several distinct types of features. One has a large head, bare face with a distinct American profile. Another—a smaller

head, with side whiskers, is a typical English face. There is a variety with a small head, large moustache and side boards, a typical Mexican face. This last has a bundle of fasces under bust. Most have the word "Columbia" over the head—a few below. There is sometimes included with these tokens one of similar workmanship, profile to the left and without the word "Columbia." The reverse of this has a figure of Justice standing to right, a sword in her right hand, and scales in the left. English cataloguers, however, claim this as a Wellington token, and it would probably antedate the Columbias by many years. Years ago, one of the older cataloguers tried to make out that they were intended for our own U. S. "Columbia the Gem of the Ocean" in song, but the idea never took here. The reverse suggests an English origin, the shield bearing the Union Jack. Some claim the bust is that of one of our earlier Presidents, but if so, who it was meant for is a mystery.

We have received a letter from Canada, protesting against a statement in our last issue that the money of the Dominion is not quite the equivalent in value of our own. The writer asserts that the Canadian five and ten dollar gold pieces are worth, to a fraction of a cent, exactly as much as our own. He points out that the report of the U. S. Mint gives the value of the Canadian dollar as equal to our own, gold being the monetary standard of Canada. He asks why, if the value of their dollar is less than our own, that in paying his last auction bill, which amounted to twenty-one dollars and seventy-two cents, he should only have bought a postal money order for that amount to send us in full payment. We give it up. As far as we are concerned, we are willing to accept all Canadian postal and express money orders at their face values. In our eyes—for business purposes, the Canadian dollar is as good as our own.

The same correspondent suggests that Buffalo would be a good place for the 1917 Convention. It is about half way between New York and Chicago and is within walking distance from Hamilton and Toronto. As it would be impossible for various reasons to hold the Convention in Canada at present, he suggests that we get as near to the "Border line" as possible, to emphasize the international feature of the A. N. A. He concludes by asking, "What's the matter with Buffalo?" There's nothing the matter with Buffalo—it's all right. It's a great city, but it does not seem to shine as a numismatic center. The same might be said of the Province of Ontario. Years ago it contained a large number of A. N. A. members, but the number has dwindled down to only a few at present. If Buffalo, or Ontario, want a Convention, they should get busy. Something is expected from the local members of a convention city, and the most wide-awake and enterprising get the reward.

Numismatics has always been recognized as a science, but we believe that it has some claims as a political barometer. We notice, for instance, that during past national political campaigns "Bryan Dollars" were always in good demand. But not so now.

In a recent auction sale there were twenty-five bidders on a dollar of 1836, while the "Bryan Dollar" of first issue, 1896, did not receive a single bid! It was the only coin in the entire sale on which a bid was not received. Evidently the demand for "Bryan Money" seems to be in keeping with the general demand for Mr. Bryan himself.

In the catalogue of the sale of the Eves collection, held in Toronto, April 21, 1864, we notice the following lots that may interest the collectors of today:

Lot 323. (American cents.) 1815 Very good. This cent is the scarcest of all the American cents, and is only to be found in very few collections. extraordinarily rare and in fine condition, and a cent to be greatly desired.

Lot 355. 1856 Nickel cent, splendid piece, Eagle, quite rare.

Lot 392. 1722 Louisiana Copper. This coin was struck in France, under Louis 15th, for the colony of Louisiana, and was ordered to be paid to the king's troops, and also to be a legal tender at the India Company's stores. Device, L. L., crossed diagonally, probably denoting Louis and Louisiana, surmounted by a crown. Extremely rare.

Lot 395. 1767 Louisiana Copper. This coin was gotten up in France, by the Government, for a copper currency to be circulated in its Louisiana colonies, where it appears to have been stamped by the officials with the initials "R. F.," probably denoting Royal Favour.

The cataloguer was Alfred Sandham, a well known Canadian collector of that period who afterwards published a catalogue of Canadian coins and tokens. Mr. Sandham died some ten or twelve years ago.

The Prof. Hutt Collection of Canadians to be Sold at Auction

Collectors who appreciate the historical side of numismatics will be interested to learn that Prof. H. L. Hutt of Toronto, Canada, has placed his fine Collection of Canadian Coins and Tokens, together with his extensive collection of foreign coins, with B. Max Mehl of Fort Worth, Texas, who will offer the entire collection at auction in the early part of July.

Due to the present European war, there has been an unusual increase of interest in the coins of foreign countries. Besides the Canadian series, Prof. Hutt formed what is believed to be one of the most interesting collections of foreign copper coins offered in years.

The sale will be held in early July and will also contain the collection of United States coins and currency formed by Mr. W. S. Ware of Jacksonville, Florida. The catalogues will be free and may be had on request to B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

STONE-WHEEL "COINS"

Iron, stone and cardboard money is being used in various parts of the world at the present moment on account of the war, according to the annual report of a well-known financial firm. On one of the Caroline Islands, extraordinary stone money is being used. Each "coin" consists of a large, thick stone wheel, ranging from one to twelve feet in diameter, and having a hole in the center, through which a pole can be put to carry it about.

Iron money has been used in Germany since last October, when one hundred million coins of the value of ½d each were issued.

Money talks, but the fifty-seven varieties now in circulation in Mexico can't speak above a whisper.

ANCIENT CHINESE COINS
Ghost's Head Money

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By H. A. RAMSDEN.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This article is of much interest to every student of Numismatics, especially so since it is probably the last unpublished article of the late Mr. Ramsden, who was the acknowledged authority of Far Eastern Numismatics.]

Shells played a most important part in the life of primitive man. They supplied him with food, since this was one of his principal daily diets; they served him for domestic implements and utensils, since they did the duties of plates, spoons and knives (using the cutting edge); and, lastly, they were used for adornment, strung through a hole in the centre and worn round the neck or about the person, as ornaments. It is no wonder, therefore, that they were primarily used for barter until they gradually became the circulating medium of exchange. Of all shells, the cowry, due to its convenient shape, size and polished surface, was selected for the purpose of money, which continued in use for many centuries in more than one part of the globe, and, even today, it is still used as currency in parts of Africa.

No. 1

No. 2

No. 3

Cowries served as a means of exchange at an early date in Ancient China. Lacouperie, in his monograph" On Barter and Shell Currency of Ancient China," claims that the Chinese adopted and regulated for their own wants a currency in use among the Pre-Chinese tribes of Eastern China, consisting of tortoise shells of various sizes and cowries. Without supporting this contention, it is certain that they were in use some 1395 years before the Christian Era, since, it was at this date that Pan King, the nineteenth ruler of the Shang Dynasty, rebuked his ministers for their greediness of hoarding cowries and gems.

It is proved, however, that it befell to these clever people to first make a token money of this cowry currency, in a similar manner as they cast representative money, for trading purposes, in the form of domestic utensils and war-like implements, although be it in reduced sizes.

Tchwang, King of Tsu, who reigned during the years 613 to 590, Before Christ, is supposed to have been the first to issue this metallic currency, in the shape of cowries, in two sizes, in order to supply a circulating medium to take the place of the real cowries which had at that time become scarce. It is more probable that this money was made in imitation and following the form of the cowrie shell and not after the fashion of the first Æginætan and Lydian coins, as advanced by Lacouperie. They were certainly called, from the commencement, by the early Chinese, "Ho Pei Tsien," meaning Metallic

Cowries Money, but it is not my purpose to here enter into controversial polemics, since this article is solely intended to give an account and describe the various known specimens of this curious money as found in the works on Far Eastern Numismatics, as well as those actually seen by me in public and private collections.

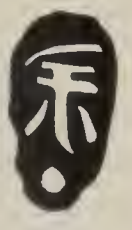
There is not a treatise on Chinese Coins that does not include this fascinating bean-shaped money. It might also be remarked that there is hardly a single authority that gives any trustworthy information concerning them. In fact, even as to its name, they do not seem to agree, since they are termed "Metallic Cowries" by some, "Ant's Nose Money" by others, while not a few style them "Ghost's Head Money," which nomenclature I have adopted for the title of this article, as probably being the most well known. Considering the shape of this money, resembling a cowrie shell, as well as their grotesque

No. 4

No. 5

markings, which give them the appearance of a ghost's head, to say nothing of their pointed end like an ant's nose, we can firmly come to the conclusion that the various names above alluded to are certainly not inappropriate.

After a careful study of all the Chinese and foreign numismatic books dealing on the subject, besides examining all the specimens in many important collections, I have been able to distinguish some eight distinct varieties, all of which are illustrated in this article. Their form, although not their size, is identical in all cases. The upper surface, which side bears the incused inscription, is convex; the bottom or lower side is flat and plain. Their shape might be compared to a pointed bean cut longitudinally in half. Common to most Chinese coins, they bear a hole, in the narrow end, to allow them to be strung together, although this hole, in most instances, does not penetrate right through the coin.



No. 6

No. 7

No. 8

No. 1 of the illustrations of this article is the type most commonly met with, not only in books, but also in collections. The incused marking on the convex surface is supposed to represent the two ancient and almost primitive characters for "Pan Liang" or Half Tael, this last being a unit of weight.

Nos. 2 and 3 are probably varieties of No. 1; the markings are nevertheless so different that they may almost be considered as constituting distinct varieties.

No. 4 reads "Each six tchus," this latter also expressing a weight unit among the ancient Chinese. This variety, although not so often met with as

No. 1, is mentioned in most works on Chinese coins. Specimens of these are also to be met with in large collections.

No. 5 is probably a sub-variety of preceding, but I have not as yet seen any original specimens.

Nos. 6 and 7 are undecipherable. They are only to be found illustrated in books.

No. 8, which reads "Ten Kin," an ancient Chinese unit, is, I believe, here published for the first time. I have been unable to find it mentioned in any works, foreign or Chinese. I have so far come across only one specimen of this most rare coin, now in my collection, which is probably unique.

There is not the slightest doubt that during a certain period quite a quantity of these metallic currencies were cast to be used as money, as many specimens have been found underground. They are certainly not as scarce as your readers would be led to believe after perusing the extract from Commodore W. C. Eaton's letter regarding Chinese Ancient Money, published in the issue of this Monthly corresponding to the May number. After describing the commonest of these types, which is illustrated, he further mentions "that they are worth anything that anybody should choose to pay." In this connection, it might be of interest to state that a well known numismatic firm here in Yokohama is offering them at a small cost. In comparison to their age, association and historical value, the price demanded comes as a surprise, as no other form of currency, either in China or elsewhere, possesses the same charm and attraction which hovers round this most interesting series of representative money.

American Numismatic Society

A meeting of the standing committees of the American Numismatic Society was held at the building of the Society on Thursday evening, May 18.

President Newell outlined to the members present a new and more progressive policy of the society, for the purpose of making it of the widest possible usefulness to Numismtists. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Howland Wood, the curator, and Mr. Sydney P. Noe, the librarian of the society, both of whom pointed out the failities for research and investigation which the society now offered.

The building of the society has just gone through the process of repairs and alterations, involving considerable improvements, and the very fine collections of Messrs. Newell and Reilly, specializing in ancient and oriental coins, are now housed in the building of the society.

A new stereopticon was also exhibited, embodying the latest improvements, and by menas of which views of coins and any other objects can be projected direct on the screen from the original object, without the use of slides.

"More power to you! Numismatic Monthly is running in high gear!"

JOHN WINFIELD AITKEN.

Knockers and Knocking

I should not have chosen this heading but for the fact that I have received a letter forwarded by the Editor, which accuses me of being a knocker. The writer objects to some statements I made in the February Monthly. It would be impossible to write a paper on any subject that every reader would endorse, and I shall not attempt to do such. But this is the first time I have ever had this charge made against me.

What is a knocker? All I have ever known have been collectors. Dealers have too much sense to indulge in this pastime. It would not be good business, and they have other things to do that pay better. But some collectors I know carry a little hammer around with them and love to use it. Only a few, of course, know how to use it properly—but my!—what a noise they can make.

Some devote all their attention to an unfortunate cataloguer who has displeased them in his description of a coin offered. Some select auction sales for their knocking, and mail auction sales more especially. What is a mail auction sale? Many will say it is a sale to which all bids are sent by mail. This is hardly correct, as the great majority of all bids to all sales are sent by mail. Very few indeed of the bidders are present at any public auction sale—over ninety per cent of the bids being sent by mail make it practically a mail auction sale. My correspondent objected to the remarks I made about bidders returning lots that had fallen to their bids, and asks me if I have never had cause to return a lot sent from a sale. I must say I have had that experience, but I have always written to the cataloguer and made my complaint before returning the lot objected to. And I have always been treated fairly. Why should he treat me otherwise?

If you really wish to startle the cataloguer, try this plan: When you receive a lot that is much better than you expected, write and tell him so. He will not get too proud over it, and it may have a good effect. He will be so anxious to retain your good opinion that he will continue to hand out these surprise packets. For one lot that does not please, I receive ten that do.

He also objected to what I said about lots being returned because the "purchaser" could not sell them at a profit, and declined to believe this had happened. He accused me of knocking collectors and suggested I was doing so on behalf of a cataloguer. This is not correct. I have never knocked a collector. Knocks, like chickens, come home to roost, and I have no place for them. If a cataloguer wants to knock anyone, he can use his own hammer if he keeps one in his office. What I wrote on this subject actually happened.

Every cataloguer could tell of similar cases. I know quite a few stamp collectors but I never heard one knock another. They seem to live in peace and friendship. A proof of this is the number of philatelic clubs in this country. For every numismatic club there are ten philatelic. Why is this?

One reason is the tendency of the numismatist to a selfish existence and the jealousy between them. Years ago I tried to start a club in the city I live in. But I had to give it up. Black said he would not join if Brown was going to, and White said he was willing if I would promise that Black would not be admitted, and Gray said if dealers were allowed to join he would not. There are dozens of collectors in this city, but it is impossible to get them

together in a club. Some of them will not even ride in the same street car. Each goes his own way, plowing his own furrow and nursing his own little hammer.

I had a visitor recently—a man from Cincinnati, a smart, intelligent business man. He had got my address from a friend and hunted me up. He wanted to see my U. S. series. It did not take very long to show him all I had. Then I showed some Roman bronze. After looking at them he said: "Well, they may be all right, but I would not give you ten cents for any one of them." I tried to show him how interesting they were from an historical view—but he said he was a business man and had to hustle to make good and he could not spare the time their study required. "Some day," said he, "when I have more time to spare, I'll buy a collection of Romans. I could never stand picking them up one at a time."

That would not be my way of collecting Romans. The greatest part of the pleasure of collecting is the gradual acquiring of specimens and adding them to the collection. When I go fishing, one fish at a time on the line is enough for me.

My visitor had a bidding system that greatly interested me. It does not always work, but then what system does? If he wants a certain cent or half cent that runs into money, he takes the last four or five auction records and averages them up; and beyond that average he will not go. One must have priced catalogues to work this system properly, but the idea seems all right. "If I get it at my bid," he said, "I am certain then that I did not pay too much for it."

Another correspondent tells me of his difficulties. He does not know of another collector in his town, and has no one to speak to who is interested in collecting. This is tough indeed, but there should be good opportunity for him to do a little missionary work in that section. What is the good of picking up a treasure if you cannot show it to some friend and enlarge on your good fortune? If a man cannot get a wife any other way, he can advertise for one. And if a collector cannot find a kindred spirit in his own town, why should he not do the same and solicit correspondence from some one interested in the same series?

This collector says he finds it difficult to get in touch with sources of supply other than the regular dealer, which is rather expensive, and the auction sales, which are rather uncertain. Outside of these sources I have no idea where he can obtain what he wants. If I want groceries I go to the grocery store, and if I'm after a roast of meat I go to the butcher. It is possible, of course, to make exchanges with another collector, but this is a very uncertain source of supply. The only satisfaction there is in exchanging with another collector, is both are getting rid of coins they do not wish to keep—but there's small advantage in this unless they are getting coins they want. My own chief source of supply is the auction sale. I have not found it so very uncertain because I make a fair bid for anything I want, as much as I would pay for it if offered directly to me. If I do not get it then, I wait for it to be offered again, and keep on bidding until I get it. All things come to those that wait.

UNCLE GEORGE.

PRICES REALIZED AT THE SALE OF KAPP AND CARR COLLECTIONS

Sold by B. Max Mehl on May 17, 1916.

1851 $50.00 Gold. 887 THOUS. Very good	$110.00
1848 $2.50 Gold. Cal. stamped above eagle. Fine	40.00
1849 $5.00 Gold. Norris, Grieg & Norris. Fine	45.00
1849 $5.00 Gold. Mass. & Calif. Co. Extremely fine	31.00
1870 California Gold Dolar. Round. Ex. Fine	10.00
$5.00 Gold. C. Bechtler at Rutherf. 134 G. 21 Carats. Fine	24.25
$1.00 Gold. C. Bechtler Rutherf. 30 G. Very fine	12.00
1849 $5 00 Gold. Oregon Exchange Co. Very good	112.00
1861 $20.00 Gold. Clark, Gruber & Co. Very fine	175.00
1861 $10.00 Gold. Clark, Gruber & Co. Fine	25.00
1860 $5.00 Gold. Clark & Co. Very fine	18.25
1860 $2.50 Gold. Clark & Co. Very fine	25.50
1796 $10.00 Gold. Fine	32.00
1799 $10.00 Gold. Fine	15.75
1803 $10.00 Gold. Extremely fine	17.00
1907 $10 00 Gold. Rolled edge and periods. Fine	73.00
1795 $5.00 Gold. Extremely fine	25.00
1798 $5.00 Gold. Very fine	13.25
1865 $3.00 Gold. Extremely fine	28.00
1796 $2.50 Gold. 16 stars. Fine	41.00
1806 over '04 $2.50 Gold. Very good	30.50
1824 over '21 $2.50 Gold. Very fine	26.50
1825 $2.50 Gold. Proof	30.50
1842 $2.50 Gold. Philadelphia Mint. Fine	41.00
1860 Gold Dollar. Dahlonega Mint. V. Fine	39.50
1863 Gold Dollar. Uncirculated	40.00
1865 Gold Dollar. Extremely fine	22.00
1867 Gold Dollar. Dulled proof	16.25
1871 Calif. Gold Dollar. Round. Uncirculated	11.50
1872 Gold Dollar. Brilliant proof	16.00
1794 Silver Dollar. Very good	110.00
1839 Dollar. Very fine	43.25
1851 Dollar. Brilliant proof	115.00
1852 Dollar. Brilliant proof	95.00
1858 Dollar. Brilliant proof	42.00
1795 Half Dollar. Three leaves under wings. Good	24.25
1796 Half Dollar. Fifteen stars. Very good	50.00
1878 Half Dollar. S mint. Extremely fine	24.00
1796 Quarter Dollar. Very fine	14.00
1853 Quarter Dollar, without arrows and rays. Very good	8.00
1798 Dime. Nearly uncirculated	15.00
1804 Dime. Fine	21.00
1805 Half Dime. Fine	6.40
1796 Large Cent. Extremely fine	21.00
1799 Cent. About good	20.00
1804 Cent. Very good	11.60
1856 Flying Eagle Cent. Very fine	10.25
1849 Mormon $5 00 Gold. Fine	36.00
1870 Pattern Dollar. Aluminum. Dull proof	12.25
1802 Half Dollar. Very fine	10.50

The sale contained over fourteen hundred lots. The List showing amounts realized for each lot may be had for only fifty cents from B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

How I Secured the Flower of My Collection---By Hiring a Cross-Eyed Negro

By HARRY F. WILLIAMS.

Our ship arrived in Bahia Harbor last January, and the Frenchman, the Englishman and myself who had formed a little coterie on board, prepared to go ashore. We selected a boat rowed by a cross-eyed Brazilian negro, as some one said that a cross-eyed darkey brought good luck. Most of the other passengers passed us in large or small motor boats, but we finally arrived at the docks and set out to convert some of Uncle Sam's currency into Brazilian money. As none of us knew Portuguese, we were on the lookout for some German or Englishman to direct us, and soon met a gentleman of Teutonic looks, whom our German friend asked, in his language, where we could find a bank. He kindly directed us to the proper place and we soon had several hundreds of thousands of Reis in our pockets. After wandering around sightseeing for an hour or so on foot, we were both hungry and thirsty and found a little hole in the wall where two ex-stewards from interned German vessels sold delicatessen and beer. While enjoying ourselves to the utmost, our Teutonic friend, who had directed us to the bank, came in for his lunch. We saluted him and sent some steins to his party. Going out, we stopped to ask him further questions. Mine was, where can I find Gold South American Coins? Mr. Schwartz, that was his name, volunteered to accompany us to a friend whom he said had some rare ones.

Now there were two Brazilian gold pieces that I did not have. One was a coin that I hoped to secure some time. It was a 4000 Reis of Dom Pedro and is extremely rare. The other one I hoped to possibly see, if I had luck. It was the Peca of Peter I of 1822. Only four of this type are known and I had read about the four and knew where three of them were. Mr. Schwartz took us to a bank, called a gentleman at a desk and told him I wanted to buy coins. He then acted as interpreter. The banker brought three gold coins. One was the 4000 Reis and the price was large, but not more than it was worth. I slipped it in my pocket and began counting out the money while my ship companions, with their eyes bulging out, expostulated at my paying so much for one small piece. They thought I was crazy, but the banker smiled and said in Portuguese, "The American seems to know something about Brazilian coins; perhaps he would like to see another one." With that he went to a safe, opened it and brought out the 1822 Peca. I knew it at once, for it was illustrated in Meili's work, and I said, "Are there five of these coins? I know of but four—the Meili specimen, at Zurich; the De Souza-Loba and the National Museum specimen at Rio de Janeiro and the Ramos specimen which was sold at Amsterdam in 1909." The banker smiled again and pointing at himself said: "I am Ramos, and bid in the coin myself at the sale."

Well, I secured the coin and later at Rio de Janeiro, the curator at the National Museum entered my name as the owner of the piece, for records are kept of the four, and I promised Senor Ramos I would report to the curator. Later on I had Senor De Souza-Loba at luncheon. His collection of Brazilian coins is the most complete that was ever gathered together, and he is now recognized as the authority on this series. He had brought some great

rarities and apologized for not bringing the "Flower of His Collection," which was too valuable to remove from the vault. "It was the 1822 Peter the First Peca." I showed him my specimen and he exclaimed at once: "The Ramos Piece! You have been in Bahia! I congratulate you."

Now, who will not believe that cross-eyed darkeys bring good luck? We would not have met Herr Schwartz if we had arrived in one of the fast motor boats at the dock. The last we saw of the boatman, after he had received his fare and a tip, was an expansive smile and a continuous bowing.

A GLANCE BACKWARD

By F. E. DUTCHER.

Here in my palm, a coin I hold,
Money of ancient Greece;
Could its strange history be told,
What tales of war or peace
Might be recounted of those days,
When gods were said to rule,
Roaming the earth with airy grace,
Hiding in nook and pool.
Venus, the beauteous goddess, wooed
Adonis—teased him sore;
Psyche, and Cupid, love imbued,
Lived then, and many more.
And Hercules, with giant strength,
Accomplished many a deed,
Till he upheld the earth at length,
While Atlas won his need.
How Jason searched for Golden Fleece,
With his ship Argo true;
This strange old coin of classic Greece,
Brings to my mind anew.
"Nothing in coins!" I hear you say.
Well, we will not dispute;
But, should we chance to meet some day,
Surely, I can refute
That statement, and may make you own,
There's a whole history
In coins of Greece or ancient Rome,
If you will talk with me.

NATURALIZING ALIEN GOLD

By EWING GALLOWAY
In Collier's Weekly.

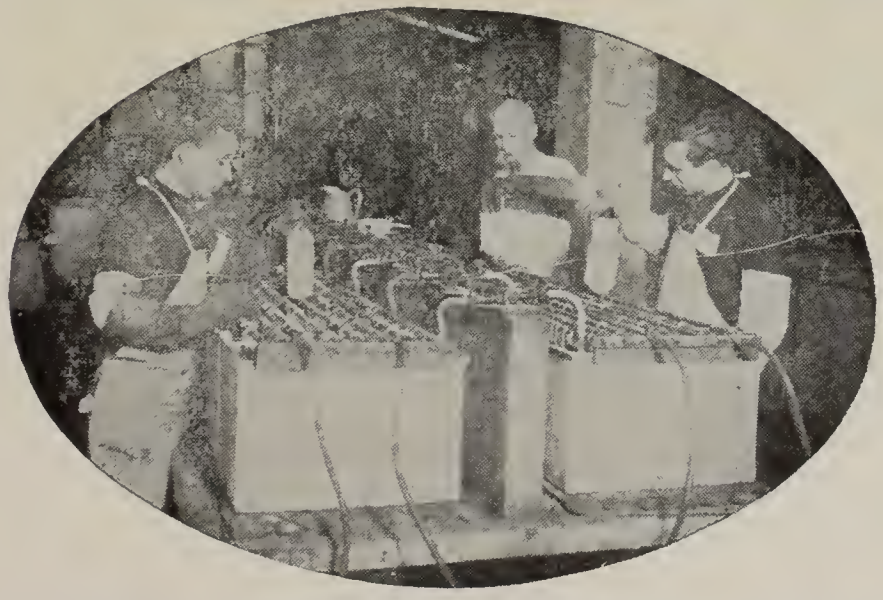
Pouring liquid gold into bar molds. Most of the bars are of this size. Each one is worth about $6,000.

Foreign gold, like alien people seeking citizenship, has to be naturalized before it can claim full recognition by Uncle Sam. It must undergo a test of acid and fire. The purity of every ounce of the precious metal must be known to the one-thousandth part of a gram. The story of the process, which is made doubly important by the shipment of hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign gold to the United States to pay for war supplies, is told in part by the photographs on this page, taken in the Federal Assay Office in New York City. The gold is melted with its alloy and molded into small bars. Then the bars are placed in muslin bags and hung in rows in a tub filled with nitric acid, which separates the silver from the gold. Between the bars are rows of magnetic slabs, which draw every particle of silver through the cloth and hold it until it is scraped off. The silver scrapings are converted into bars. The gold left in the bags is given additional heat and acid tests to remove any other alloys it may contain. When the gold is first melted, small samples are taken out of the pot, weighed, and given the severest test possible, after which it is again weighed and the weights are compared to ascertain the exact percentage of alloy. Gold deposited with the Treasury Department is stored

away in vaults, and that tested for private owners is returned to them. There are several assay plants throughout the country, but most of the work is done

Sho-eling English gold (sovereigns) into a melting pot. This is the first step in naturalization. Most of the foreign war gold comes from England, as John Bull is helping to pay his allies' bills, particularly Russia's.

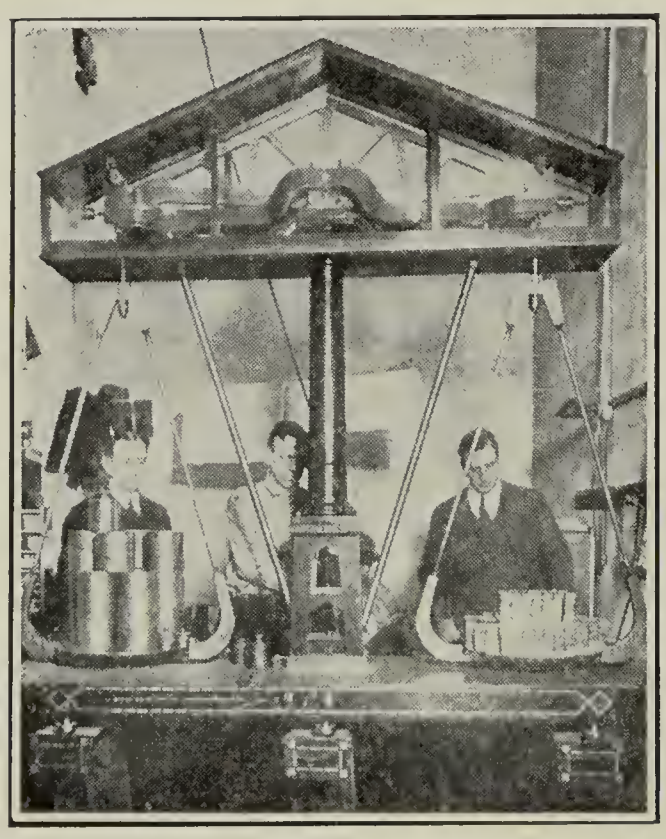
by the New York office. In the last calendar year this office handled gold, silver, and other highly valuable metals amounting to $245,530,000, of which



Gold mixed with silver is placed in bags and hung in the vats which contain nitric acid. The acid separates the silver from the gold, and the silver passes through the cloth and fastens itself on electrified slabs such as those the men are holding. The silver is scraped off the slabs, and afterward melted and molded into bars. The gold is given several additional tests.

$169,739,000, in round numbers, was foreign. Nearly all the foreign gold sent here is from England, which is furnishing most of the money for the purchase of war supplies in the United States. The Assay Office received $25,000,000 in

English gold at one time. The gold imported since the war began represents a comparatively small part of the business transacted with the belligerent nations. The present trade balance in our favor is approximately $2,200,000,000.



Weighing gold in small bars before turning it over to private owners. The Assay Office tests gold and silver in quantities varying from single pieces of old jewelry to single deposits amounting to $25,000,000. The precious metals come from nearly every country in the world.

SILVER GOING UP

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By M. SORENSEN.

Silver is going up. Even if it is as yet far from the time-honored 16 to 1 mark, it is evident that the price of the white metal is rising steadily. Only two years ago silver and gold was 40 to 1 in the market. Now it is 27 to 1, and silver is still climbing upward. This increase in the value of silver may in the future effect the finances of the different countries.

The causes for this are several. Among the principal ones may be mentioned the revolution in Mexico and the European war.

Mexico has hitherto furnished a large amount of the world's supply of silver. But under the present conditions in poor, stricken Mexico, which have now lasted for several years, very little silver has been produced, and, as a consequence that source of the world's supply has been cut off. On the other hand is the war in Europe creating a greater demand for silver. Several of the principal countries—England, France, Russia and Germany—are coining unusually large amounts of silver.

Gold has been entirely withdrawn from circulation in Germany. The same applies to France. Both countries seem determined to keep their gold reserve up in order to preserve their credit. And the money in circulation in those two countries is principally silver and paper—an unusually large amount of paper.

Nominally is gold still circulating freely in England, but a large volume of silver has virtually been put in circulation, and it is reported that the Bank of England contemplates issuing more paper and withdrawing the gold.

In Russia has gold likewise disappeared from circulation, and silver and paper have taken its place. Russia is buying large quantities of silver, and it is rumored that this is coined into Roubles at Japanese mints.

Other European countries are buying up and storing away silver. Under the present disturbed conditions the general opinion in financial circles seems to be that it is safer to store the silver and emit paper to circulate instead.

From the Fort Worth Sunday Morning News' Special Rotary Club Edition.

The Dated Store Cards of Illinois That Should be in the Hard Times List

PAPER READ BY DR. GEORGE P. FRENCH
Before the Rochester Numismatic Association.

The dated store cards in the Hard Times Token list by Lyman H. Low extend to and include the year 1846. This evening I wish to call your attention to those store cards of Illinois dated 1845, which should be in the list. These show cards were uttered by four different firms—two combining to issue one card.

This latter card was uttered by N. C. Amsden, Genoa, and Geo. Williams, Belvidere, Ill. The other two cards were put out by two firms in Chicago, viz., Hamilton & White and Burbank & Shaw. They were all issued in copper. I have never seen one in any other metal.

The card issued by Amsden and Williams has on the obverse in the upper center part of the field a man walking at a fast pace, underneath which is GENOA, and underneath Genoa is ILLINOIS; beneath which at the lower border is the date 1845, on each side of which is a star separating it from the marginal advertisement: I AM GOING TO N. C. AMSDEN'S STORE.

On the reverse in a semi-circle above is the inscription, GEO. WILLIAMS, and below in a semi-circle is BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS, and between these two in three straight lines is

DEALER
IN DRY GOODS &
GROCERIES.

I only remember of seeing this piece sold at public sale three times in the last twenty-five years, one piece having been sold twice. It is excessivly rare.

The Hamilton & White card has the following inscription on the obverse. In a semi-circle around the upper half of the coin is the firm's name: HAMILTON & WHITE. At the lower center is the date 1845, which is curved. Between these two curved lines is the following in five straight lines:

DEALERS IN
DRY GOODS
GROCERIES
AND
PRODUCE.

This token is extremely rare—very seldom being offered for sale.

The Burbank and Shaw card has the firm's name

BURBANK AND SHAW

in a semi-circle around the upper half of the border and

GROCERIES & CROCKERY

in a semi-circle around the lower half of the border. Within this outer inscription is a roped circle within which in a semi-circle above is DEALERS and below in a semi-circle is DRY GOODS. In the center of the circle in a straight line is the word IN, underneath which are two —.— dashes divided by

a dot. On the reverse side around the border CASH PAID FOR PRODUCE. Below the period is the letter .W. with a period on each side. This letter stands for Wright, the die cutter, of Albany. Within this inscription is another roped circle similar to the one on the obverse, within which in a semi-circle above is CHICAGO; below in a curved line is the date 1845. Between the two curved lines are the numbers 149 and below LAKE STREET, below which are two dashes divided by a dot. This comes in planchet of two sizes, one much larger than the other. I have seen but one specimen of the large planchet. This card is very rare, but not so rare as thhe other two.

The Peacock Card comes in two varieties and they are dated 1837, but were issued at a much later date. The date simply refers to the year the firm started in business.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held at the Park Avenue Hotel on Friday evening, May 12, 1916; President Boyd presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Beesley, Belden, Blake, Boyd, Butler, de Lgaerberg, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Nangle, Newell, Proskey, Reilley, Smith, Valentine, Wood and Wormser.

Mr. W. Gedney Beatty was unanimously elected to membership, the secretary casting one ballot.

The secretary reported the receipt of one magazine; of an invitation from the American Museum of Natural History to an exhibition of paintings of the "Mystic North," Alaskan scenery by Mr. Leonard N. Davis, and of a new addition from Mr. Memmo Cagiati to our library, consisting of the eighth installment, issued in 1916, of "Le Monete del Reame delle due Sicilie da Carlo I. d'Angio a Vittorio Emanuele II."

The secretary also called attention to the activities of member Frey, who as surviving founder of the New York Shakespeare Society was instrumental in the erection of a tablet at Madison Avenue and 49th St., which on April 23rd was unveiled by his daughter, Miss Miranda Frey.

The secretary was instructed to acknowledge the invitation and Mr. Cagiati's contribution.

Mr. de Lagerberg, in behalf of the Medallic Art Committee, submitted a brief report in regard to the proposed foreign medal issues. Under the head of new business, attention was called to the fact that the American Numismatic Association was celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary, and that it would be highly desirable to strike a medal in commemoration.

Mr. Smith called attention to the exhibition of paintings of Prof. Heaton which had been held at the Carnegie Library at New Rochelle, which showed the wide range of subjects of this artist. Mr. Smith expressed great pride in our having such a versatile member.

Mr. Elder reported the recent establishment of a St. Louis Numismatic Society. He also told at length of his recent visit, at Pittsburg, to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Geschwend and of this gentleman's numismatic life. He is now 75 years old and had started collecting in 1858, belonging to an older genera-

tion of famous numismatists and counting among his friends Newland and Dr. Maris. He still has a very fine collection. Mrs. Geschwend lent Mr. Elder for publication a photograph of Mr. Edward Cogan, one of the greatest numismatic cataloguers, which was in her possession.

Mr. de Lagerberg called attention to a recent Swedish publication by Mr. Applegren on Swedish Mint Masters and Mint Marks. Special attention was called to Mr. Guttag's exhibit of current European Emergency Paper Money, also to illustrations of German War Medals in the New York Times, which would undoubtedly tend to arouse interest of the public in numismatics.

The subject set for the evening's exhibit was: "Portraits of Women on Coins and Medals."

Among the exhibits were a large number of beautiful coins and medals exhibited by Messrs. Wormser, Beesley, de Lagerberg, Guttag and Proskey.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

A DOLLAR MADE OF CORN

A remarkable reproduction of a silver dollar was recently made by George Herren, a cabinet maker of Pella, Iowa. This reproduction, which is 32 times

the size of its model, is constructed entirely of kernels of corn, glued to a backing of heavy pasteboard.

As shown in the illustration, the resemblance is very close. It is estimated that over a quarter of a million kernels of corn were used, and its construction occupied the maker's time for more than six months. More than thirty different shades of color are to be found in the "dollar," which is to be found on exhibition in the home of the patient cabinet-maker.

—Popular Science Monthly.

Medal Issues

Gold Medal Awarded William Dean Howells for Distinguished Work in Writing.

Boston.—William Dean Howells, of New York, has been awarded the gold medal by the National Institute of Arts and Letters for distinguished work in the writing of fiction.

New members elected by the institute were announced as follows: Charles R. Miller, Elihu Root, Henry Osborn Taylor, Robert I. Aitken, James Earl Fraser, Bertram G. Goodhue, Breck Trowbridge, all of New York; Ernest R. Kroeger, St. Louis; Arne Oldberg, Evanston, Ill.; Gamaliel Bradford, Ellery Sedgwick and Ralph Adams Cram, of Boston.

Six vacancies have been filled, it was announced, by the election of the following members: William Gillette, playwright; George L. Rives, historian; Paul Elmer More, critic and essayist; J. Alden Meir, painter; Frederick MacMonnies, sculptor, all of New York, and Robert Grant, novelist, of Massachusetts.

James Forgie, American, Honored by English Engineering Society.

James Forgie, consulting engineer, is awaiting the receipt of a Telford gold medal, which was awarded to him by the Institution of Civil Engineers of Great Britain in recognition of his paper on "The Laxaxalpam Aqueduct Tunnels in Mexico," and of his achievement in engineering, the subject of the paper. The award was formally announced at the meeting of the institution on November 2.

Very few men in this country have received this honor. Among them are Col. W. H. Harts, William Barclay Parsons, W. J. Wilgus and J. V. Davies. The medal is about 3 inches in diameter and has on one side a head of Thomas Telford, founder of the institution, which was incorporated in 1828, but in existence long before that time, and on the other the famous Menai Suspension Bridge of North Wales. The name of the recipient is inscribed around the edge.

Medal for Champion Corn-Grower of Ohio Arrives.

Columbus, Ohio.—A bronze medal to be presented to Arnet Rose, of Allgier, Allein County, champion youthful corn-grower of Ohio in 1914 and 1913, has been received by Governor Willis from officials of the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

PAPER MONEY POPULAR IN ENGLAND

In 1816 the authorities of the mint in England decided to discontinue the use of the guinea and the half-guinea, which were replaced by the sovereign and the half-sovereign. Now, in turn the half-sovereign is to be withdrawn. The reason is that the wastage on the smaller gold coin in circulation is much greater than on the sovereign, owing to the larger surface exposed in proportion to the value. Everything possible has been done to increase the durability of the coins, but the half-sovereign wears badly and is said to chip easily. Paper money is coming into greater favor each year.

HOARDING SILVER

While the governments of Europe are hoarding all the gold that they can get hold of as a means of protecting their wavering credit, the people of those countries are hoarding the silver coins that the governments have been coining in greatly increased numbers. This is one of the chief reasons given for the rise of silver. Two years ago it took forty ounces of silver to buy one ounce of gold; now the ratio is twenty-seven to one. Of course, there is another reason in the decreased supply of silver, for Mexico, which provides a large part of the world's supply of silver, has been too busy with revolutions and raids to allow the operation of its rich mines.

But a more important reason, and one that may have far-reaching consequences, is the increased silver coinage in Europe and the zeal with which the masses put the coins out of sight and allow the paper to circulate. When Germany, by force, and France, by persuasion, gathered in all the gold available, they would liked to have issued only paper money for circulation, but governments have to consider the habits and prejudices of the people. So along with the enormous increase in paper money they had to coin much more silver. That has an intrinsic value, whatever the terms of peace, while paper money may suffer many unhappy things. So the people put away the silver, and the demand for it increases. Gold still circulates in England, but there, too, the silver coinage is much larger than formerly. The same is true of Russia and Italy.

All this means that the countries on a silver basis are in a happy position as regards international trade. In terms of gold their silver is worth almost twice as much as before the war. In the meantime the silver miners, where they can operate in safety, are happy. But among all the curious political manifestations of the times there is no indication that the silver party will come to life again. —Boston Herald.

ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY GIVEN VALUABLE COLLECTION

William G. Hibbard, Jr., of Chicago, recently has given an interesting and valuable collection of coins to the University of Illinois. There are 318 pieces, of which 29 are gold. The Greek and Roman coins of the collection, 39 in number, will be exhibited in the Classical Museum, the others in the Museum of European Culture.

The curators of the two museums have not had time to identify all the coins, but among the ancient ones they found a gold coin of Emperor Consantinus, silver coins of Rhodes, Naxos, Tarentum, Athens, of Alexander the Great, of the Roman Republic and of the Roman emperors Nero, Trajan and Philip. The ancient bronze coins are mostly Roman.

Among the medieval and modern pieces is a beautiful gold coin of Ferdinand and Isabelle; also gold coins of Frederick the Great, of Napoleon the First, of Philip V and Charles IV of Spain, of the United States of the years 1799 and 1800. There are silver coins of Charles II and William III of England, one of Francis I, King of the Two Sicilies, a Saxon marck of 1772 and a Danish four-shilling piece of 1828. Of interest among the copper coins is a one-cent piece of 1787 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The larger number of silver and copper coins are present day coins of various countries, including many of the remoter parts of the world.

A. Feld
6/10/68
#31-23
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FOR SALE

Curious Wampum Money

The curious Wampum Money as were used among the natives in barter in the Society Islands—called the

The South Sea Wampum

and are the natural sections (bone) out of the vertrabral or spinal column of the Man-Eating Sharks.

Trifle smaller than U. S. Quarter Dollar, but more than one-fourth inch thick. In truly natural condition.

Price, each 25c, or 5 for $1.00

B. MAX MEHL

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Choice Collection of Small Cents

Complete 1864 to 1913, including the 1877 and 1909 Indian Head and also the branch mints from 1908 to 1913.

All Uncirculated and Proofs---Mostly Proofs

A fine and unusual set, and a great deal more difficult to get together than is generally supposed.

Price. $13.50 for entire collection.

Would cost about $20 to $25 if purchased separately.

B. MAX MEHL - - FORT WORTH, TEXAS

WANT TO PURCHASE

THE FOLLOWING U. S. GOLD COINS

Send list of what you have to offer, stating condition and price.

$20.00

Philadelphia:
1856
1857
1858
1859
1862
1863
1867
1870
1871
1875
1880
1881
1882
1886

Carson City:
1871
1872
1875
1877
1878
1879
1892

Denver:
1906
1907
1909
1912
1914

New Orleans:
1854
1855
1856
1857
1859
1860
1879

San Francisco:
1854
1858
1860
1861
1912
1915

$10.00

Philadelphia:
1846
1857
1858
1859
1862
1863
1864
1868
1877
1908 No Motto

Carson City:
1874
1875
1876
1877
1879
1880
1882
1884

Denver:
1908 No Motto
1908 Motto
1911
1912
1913

New Orleans:
1852
1853
1855
1881
1882
1883
1888
1893
1897
1899
1904
1861 *

San Francisco:
1857
1858
1859
1864
1865

$10.00--Cont.

1867
1868
1869
1872
1873
1874
1876
1877
1894
1900
1911
1914
1915

$5.00

Philadelphia:
1798 { Small / Eagle
1815
1822
1825
1828
1829 2nd type
1841
1842
1855
1860
1862
1863
1866
1869
1870
1875

Carson City:
1871
1872
1873
1874
1876
1878
1881

Denver:
1908
1909
1910

$5.00--Cont.

1911
1912
1913

New Orleans:
1841
1851
1855
1892
1909

San Francisco:
1854
1857
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1860
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1864
1867
1868
1874
1876
1908
1914
1915

$2.50

Philadelphia:
1841 *

Charlotte:
1859 *

Denver:
1911
1912
1913

New Orleans:
1841 *
1848 *

San Francisco:
1858 *
1859

VOLUME VII.

NUMBERS 8-9
WHOLE NUMBERS 80-81

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION
IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
FOREIGN $1.00
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

Just A Word, Please.

On July 12th, with the thermometer working over-time all over the country, my sale of the Prof. Hutt Collection went off as successfully as any sale of the season. Over two hundred bidders were represented at the sale!

And all seem to be pleased with results.

When such mutually satisfactory relations exist between a dealer and his clients—it is certainly worthy of **your** *consideration when in either the buying or selling market of the Numismatic Business.*

I have a peach of a sale booked for September or early October.

Write me.

B. MAX MEHL, Numismatist,
Fort Worth, Texas

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher
301-304 Commonwealth Building, Fort Worth, Texas

Subscription Price in United States and Canada, 50 cents a year; Foreign $1.00

Vol. VII. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1916 Nos. 8-9

With The Editor

It seems that after all we retain the Eagle on our half and quarter dollars. This is at it should be—any change of design that omitted our national bird would be regrettable. The new Eagle is our old friend—less heraldic, but far more natural. It is indeed a kingly bird.

Secretary McAdoo's announcement that the design of the 25-cent piece is intended to typify the awakening of the country to its own protection is interesting. The usual motto "In God We Trust" is retained. It is a good motto—but simply trusting in God is not enough. The Republic while doing so must be prepared to meet any possible future enemy or contingency. There is a cloud—a small one as yet—in the Far East, and none can tell at present how large and rapidly it may grow. It has taken England two years to arm herself and get ready, and cost her countless millions. It might take us even longer and cost even more.

Among the most admired examples of ancient coin art, the rare decadrachms of Agrigentum rank high. The Eagles shown on these are Eagles. Still it must be remembered that these coins were issued twenty-three hundred years ago. Probably the artistic merit had something to do with the acceptance of a design in those days of long ago. The Agrigentum Eagles are active—possibly too active for our ideas today. The gold coins show it in the act of devouring a serpent. Doubtless the Eagle had its reason for such unneighborly action.

For a less aggressive Eagle we might study the Ptolemaic type. This is a bird we can all admire. Standing firmly on a thunder-bolt, its attitude indicates watchful preparation. While not seeking trouble, it is plainly prepared should it turn up. If you have a large Ptolemaic bronze, examine it, and see how our national bird should appear on our coins. If you have not got such a coin, procure one. Your collection is incomplete without a specimen.

One of the most interesting features of past Conventions has been the Numismatic Exhibits found there. These have been found of great value to both the attending members and the public generally. We are looking for

great things at Baltimore next month. Some of our more advanced collectors are already preparing to make a large exhibit, yet have some specimens of exceptional interest and value. It would be well if space is reserved for these—and collectors urged to take with them any pieces they consider of particular interest. The general public, the non-collectors, require something more than mere mint-marks and rare dates to catch and hold their attention.

Numismatics has many advantages over other hobbies. The man of moderate means can indulge in it as successfully as his more wealthy brother. A Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey or Vermont cent is fully as interesting from every point of view as an 1804 dollar—or a 1799 cent. An English Condor token may be more interesting than a five-guinea piece of the same period, and we know men who prefer the despised and condemned Canadian blacksmith to the Montreal bridge token. There is room for all varieties of taste, and all conditions of pocket in the Collectors Camp.

What is required also at the Convention is an influx of new attendants. The old guard will be there for sure; they can always be relied upon for their active support. There are many members, however, who should—and easily could be there, who will be absent. Cannot some of these make an effort to attend? We urge every member that can possibly attend, to do so. We have attended many Conventions in the past and have the most pleasant memories of them all.

Recently a correspondent wrote: "Here's another thing that bothers me a great deal, and that is—not having any other collectors near me to exchange ideas with—to show my coins to—with the privilege of looking over their collections. It is hard to keep up one's interest under such conditions." It surely must be. To all in similar circumstances we would say—attend the Convention next month. You will meet more collectors there and see more coins than you can possibly see at home in twenty years. Friendships will be made that will live for years, and after the Convention is over you will wonder why you have missed this pleasure so long.

Some offer the ridiculous excuse that Mrs. Collector objects to their attending a Convention. Well, that's easily got over. Take her with you. She will enjoy it as much as you will, and may become as enthusiastic over collecting as you are. She may even want to start a collection herself. And this would be a good way to dispose of your duplicates. Think of it—the long winter evenings will come again, and after the dinner things are put away—the blinds pulled down, and the light switched on—what greater pleasure could you have than comparing notes, and exchanging your duplicates with the partner of your joys and sorrows!

The 1883 nickel without the word "cents" bobs up every now and again with a milled, or reeded edge. Collectors finding this variety need not place it with their pattern pieces. There is a more simple explanation. Recently, our watch having gone on strike, we took it to a jeweler. In the course of conversation he asked if we had a nickel of this year we could let him have. He was not a collector, and being curious we asked what he wanted this

rarity for. He said that a year or two ago he had collected enough nickels of this date to make a bracelet for his wife. He had the number required and had milled the edges of each, meaning to gold plate them. Before this was done, however, a friend of his—a member of an Eastern Numismatic Club—had seen the milled nickels, and collector-like desired a specimen for his own collection. The jeweler, anxious to oblige his friend, gave him one. Since then the bracelet had been held up for want of the missing piece. Always at the public's service, we supplied it. And now—his wife is adorned with a bracelet of seemingly gold $5 pieces. The jeweler is neither a collector nor a crook.

The movement of British gold sovereigns to this country and their change into 6000 bars by our Assay Office may have the effect of some dates of issue becoming of great rarity. It is possible that in the future a British sovereign of 1915 or 1916 may command many times its own face value.

Is Breton 1007 With Obverse of B. 1006, False and the Work of a Fakir?

By S. S. HEAL.

In an article which appeared in the June number of the Numismatist, Mr. R. W. McLachlan refers to my paper "The Mysterious Busts on Breton 1002, 6, 7," which appeared in the March issue of this monthly.

Every collector is entitled to hold his own opinion as to the identity of the person whose bust appears on these tokens. I am content to leave this question to collectors interested in this series. At the same time I wish to emphasize the fact that these tokens were undoubtedly issued in England, not in Canada. At this period England had Ships, Colonies and Commerce. This cannot be said of Canada. And why a bust of De Salaberry, or Papineau should be selected for an English token is more than I can imagine.

Mr. McLachlan says in his article:

> "There is also another variety which I claim to be false, bearing the bust of No. 2 with the reverse of No. 4, size 24 mm. This appears to be the work of a fakir who, by turning down the bust as it appears in No. 4, and cutting out the bust on No. 2, made a new variety of the 'Commercial Change' reverse by inserting it in place of the young bust."

Mr. McLachlan is speaking here of B. 1007 with bust of B. 1006, the "big head" variety.

It is against this statement that I wish to protest. Mr. McLachlan may have a false or counterfeit specimen of this variety of B. 1007. But it is an undoubted fact that genuine specimens exist, and are found in the collections of several advanced Canadian collectors.

Dr. Courteau of St. Jacques, P. Q., Mr. E. W. Barton of Toronto, and Judge Lees of Red Deer, Alberta, have this variety, and each accept it as, and state it to be undoubtedly genuine. Dr. Courteau writes me that he is con-

vinced that his specimen is genuine and not made in the manner described by Mr. McLachlan.

Mr. E. W. Barton has been collecting Canadian coins for fifty-six years, paying especial attention to die varieties. He has had a specimen of this variety in his collection for twelve years. It came from a New York sale and is guaranteed genuine by Mr. Lyman H. Low. This, with my own, I sent some time ago to Mr. Howland Wood for examination. Mr. Wood pronounced both tokens genuine and not faked as Mr. McLachlan states they are.

Mr. John A. Wood of Hamilton, Ont, is the District Secretary of the A. N. A. for this Province. He is peculiarly fitted to give an authoritative opinion on this question. He has had thirty years' experience with metal working of all descriptions. He holds a responsible position in the Steel Corporation of Canada, one of the largest of its kind in the world. He has in his charge over one hundred thousand dollars worth of dies, and as a Numismatist and expert worker in metals his opinion is most valuable. I showed him both Mr. Barton's and my own specimens, and after careful examination he stated both were genuine, and not made as Mr. McLachlan claims.

Mr. J. Gibbs, also of Hamilton, who did much for Canadian numismatics in his valuable papers on die varieties of Canadian coins, which appeared in the Numismatist of some ten years ago, also accepted this variety as genuine.

Among others who accept, or have accepted this variety as genuine, are: L. J. Casault, John Dow, Ed Frossard Sr., Gerald Hart, Farrar Inneson, W. R. McColl, W. T. Smith.

What Mr. McLachlan's object is in knocking this variety I cannot imagine. If some unprincipled person has foisted a counterfeit of it on him, he has my sincere sympathy. I am not concerned with Mr. Davis' error in stating that the bust on B. 982 is that of Wellington. It bears more resemblance to General Wolf, the Hero of Quebec, but I hesitate to claim it as such.

In connection with Mr. McLachlan's article I would say that the obverse of B. 1003 is not the same as the "choppy waves" variety of B. 997. The obverse of B. 1003 is known as the "rolling waves or small ship" variety of B. 997.

Mr. McLachlan seems unaware that there are two distinct reverses to B. 972. On one variety Britannia holds a trident; on the other, a pole or headless spear.

ROYAL MEDALS FOR EXPLORERS.

The Royal Geographical Society announced that the king has approved the award of royal medals as follows:

The founders' medal to Lieut. Col. P. H. Fawcett, for explorations and surveys in the upper waters of the Amazon. Col. Fawcett has worked for a number of years on the exploration of those tributaries of the Amazon which have their headwaters in the territory until recently in dispute between Brazil, Bolivia and Peru.

The patrons' medal to Capt. F. M. Bailey, Indian army, for his exploration of the Tsangpo-Dihang river in the hitherto unexplored country where it breaks through the Himalayas.

The Inscriptions on Roman Imperial Coins and How to Read Them.

I have received several letters recently from correspondents, readers of this Monthly, asking questions about the legends found on Roman coins. Some of these took me by surprise and led me to think that there were many young collectors who only required a helping hand to become truly interested in this series. I have written to several in the endeavor to find the chief difficulty they found in these coins, and this paper is an attempt to help them in their start in collecting the coins of Imperial Rome.

One correspondent said he liked the coins—they were very interesting, but he did not know much about Roman history. Now I cannot undertake to

write a history of Rome. A short history may be bought for a small sum, and the collector can find in its pages all that it is necessary for him to know to properly appreciate the historical value of his coins. Two others wrote me, saying that the reading of the legends, more especially the obverse ones, was the stumbling block. One wrote as follows: "On the bronze coins of Hadrian (117-138), of which you sent a rubbing, I notice on the reverse the letters 'S C'. What is their meaning? I noticed them the other day on a bronze coin of Augustus. Perhaps their meaning is obvious, but I must confess my ignorance."

This is a question that can be answered in a few words. S C are the initial letters of "Senatus Consulto," and mean—By decree of the Senate.

It stands to reason that if the collector can read the inscriptions on his coins, and attribute them properly, he will take more interest in them than he would if he were in doubt whether they were issued under Domitian or Marcus Aurelius. Once he can read the legends the rest is plain sailing. The letters

used are the same that we use today. The only difference is that the letter U is generally found as V, as in AVGVSTVS. The abbreviations and lack of spacing between them are the greatest difficulty. I think it will help if I give first the actual inscription on the coin, and afterwards fill out the words and properly space them. This I will do with a long, puzzling inscription. The letters given within parentheses are not on the coins.

The coins of Augustus, B. C. 27 to A. D. 14, are easy to read, having few abbreviations. To make a start we will take one having on the obverse a head of the Emperor and the words—CAESAR AVGVSTVE DIVI F(ilius) PATER PATRIAE. This means—Caesar Augustus, Son of the Divine (Julius), Father of the Country. The reverse shows an altar and the legend—ROM(æ) ET AVG(usto). This means—To Rome and Augustus.

A bronze coin of Marcus Agrippa, son-in-law of Augustus, has the following: M. AGRIPPA L. F. COS. III. This means—Marcus Agrippa Lucius Filius Consul III. In our language—Marcus Agrippa—son of Lucius, Consul for the third time. The reverse shows a standing figure—Neptune, holding in his right a hand a dolphin, and a trident in his left, and the letters S. C. There is a reason for this reverse—Agrippa was a Roman Admiral who won a great victory over the fleet of Sextus Pompeius, off Mylæ, B. C. 36. There is a meaning to everything found on a Roman coin.

We will now take a long inscription found on a bronze coin of the Emperor Trajan, 98 to 117 A. D. I give this exactly as it appears on the coin:

IMPCAESNERVATRAIANOOPTIMOAVGGERDACPMTRPCOSVIPP

All this is found on a coin of twenty-eight millimeters (one and one-eighth of an inch).

I showed this very coin to a young nephew of mine, a sharp boy of twelve, and asked him to read and tell me what it was. He considered it for some time and then started letter by letter. I asked him to read it, not to spell it—but he said: "I can't read it, Uncle; it's all jumbled up and looks like one long word to me."

Now I know there are not many boys of this age studying Roman coins. But I undertook to make this jumbled up inscription plain to him, and I succeeded in this way: I started to print off the inscription—filling in the missing letters, which I show bracketed.

IMP(ERATOR) CAES(AR) NERVA TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG (VSTS) GER(MANICVS) DAC(IVS) P(ONTIFEX) M(AXIMVS) TR(IBVNICIA) P(OTESTATE) CO(N)S(VL) VI P(ATER) P(ATRIAE).

In our language this means: The Emperor, Cæsar, Nerva Trajan, the most

excellent Augustus—the German—the Dacian, Sovereign Pontiff, exercising the Tribunitian Power, Consul for the sixth time, Father of the Country.

The reverse of this coin shows a figure of a winged Victory advancing to right, and the inscription SENATVS POPVLVSQUE ROMANVS—S. C. This means: The Senate and People of Rome. By decree of the Senate.

It would be easy to fill up several pages if I treated a dozen or more coins in this way, but this should be enough to show any collector how to make a start. One illustration is as good as a dozen. With the following list of abbreviations most commonly found on coins of this series, you will soon be able to read the inscriptions without much trouble. One-quarter of the study given to a Roman inscription that is cheerfully given to the solving of an ordinary newspaper puzzle, will tell all there is to find out about it. Nothing of any good is, as a rule, mastered without some trouble. If, after a fair trial, you find you cannot master the inscriptions, take my advice and leave Roman coins severely alone—they are not for you. Should you want to go more deeply into this series, procure "Roman Coins—An Elementary Manual," compiled by F. Gnecchi, translated by the Rev. A. W. Hands. This is published in England at $2.00. Stevenson's "Dictionary of Roman Coins" is a most valuable work. To these two books I am indebted for the list of abbreviations, and the facts given in this paper.

Abbreviations Most Commonly Found on Roman Imperial Coins.

ANT—Antoninus.
AVG—Augustus.
AVR—Aurelius.
BRIT—Britannica.
CAES—Cæsar.
CAP—Capta.
CENS—Censor.
COS—Consul.
DAC—Daeius.
DIC—Dictator.
D N—Dominus noster. (Our Lord).
DOM—Domitian.
EXER—Exercitus.
F, FIL—Filius (son), Filia (daughter).
FORT RED—Fortuna redux.
GER, GERM—Germanicus, Germanica.
IMP—Imperator.
IVN—Junior.
N C (NOB CAES)—Nobilissimo Cæsari.
NER—Nerva.
OP, OPT—Optimo.
PERP—Perpetuus.
P M, PONT MAX—Pontifex Maximus.
P P—Pater Patriæ.
S C—Senatus Consulto.
S P Q R—Senatus populusque Romanus.
TI—Tiberius.
TR, P, TR POT, TRIB POT—Tribunicia potestate.
VESP—Vespasian.
VIC, VICT—Victoria.

BURNED $46,000,000 OF MEXICAN CURRENCY

Paper currency amounting to $46,000,000 was burned recently in the courtyard of the National Palace at Mexico City, with government officials and bankers interested spectators. The money was part of the old Vera Cruz issue, which is slowly being supplanted by the new uncounterfeitable bills. The total amount of paper bills publicly burnd up to date aggregates more than 100000,000 pesos.

Numismatic Notes of General Interest.

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By M. SORENSEN.

Origin of the Bank Note.

Bank notes were first issued in England in 1670 or thereabouts. They were instruments of writing, executed by goldsmiths to people who had left money in their custody. Several of these notes were found in a back room of Child's Bank, the oldest of English banking houses, when it was removed from the vicinity of Temle Bar a few years ago. The following is a specimen:

Nov. 28, 1684.

I promise to pay unto ye Rt. honble Lord North & Gray,
or bearer ninety pounds at demand.

For Mr. Francis Child & myself
Jno. Rogers.

The right to issue such notes was never questioned. They were simply evidences of claims to money deposited with the goldsmith or the bank. As the business grew, and the quantities of notes called for by depositors increased, it became more convenient to print blank forms, to be filled out with the names of the depositors and of the amounts due them. Still later notes were printed for round sums—as, for eample, five or ten pounds,—which could be handed in quantities to the persons entitled to receive them. And these were made payable to bearer, or order, according to the wish of the depositor. The business of discounting commercial papers was added to the goldsmith's vocation very soon after the practice of depositing money with him became common, and the notes were isued, if desired, to the persons getting the discounts.

Visitors at the Philadelphia mint invariably ask to see the "Widow's Mite," one of the most noted and celebrated coins in the world. This coin is mentioned several times in the Bible, and is a lepton, the smallest of Greek and Syrian coins. This coin was found by Dr. Barclay among the rubbish of the Temple grounds in Jerusalem and by him presented to the mint. It is but three-tenths of an inch in diameter, and weighs ten grains. Its value in our money was about one-fifth of a cent.

Among the rare coins of the United States is the double eagle of 1849. This is our first double-eagle, and only one piece was struck. A law passed Congress in 1849 ordering twenty-dollar gold pieces to be issued. One piece was struck, and then something intervened to delay the work. The year closed, and then no more coins could be struck. This solitary twenty-dollar gold piece, which represents the whole mintage of double-eagles for the first year of issue, is at the mint at Philadelphia. One more piece was struck in brass before the dies were destroyed.

The Term "Bit."

It would be interesting to have it determined to what extent the term "bit" is still in use among tradesmen and laborers in the West as an established money of account.

As is well known, the Mexican real was popularly known as a bit in the western part of the country—a term which yet survives as a popular money of account. The terms 2 bits, 4 bits, and 6 bits being used to express the values 25, 50, and 75 cents. The influence of the Mexican real bit, which had a value of approximately 12½ cents, is probably seen in the application, in parts of the West, of the term "short bit" to the slightly smaller dime.

It would likewise be interesting to have it ascertained to what extent such popular slang terms as bean, bone, buck, button, pill, plunk, stick, wheel, etc., and others of a similar nature, are applied to coins; the locality where used, and denominations applied to.

Denmark has coined the bit for circulation in its West Indian possessions. The issue is of 1905, and consists of the three denominations, 5, 25, and 50 bits (1, 5, and 10 cents), in bronze, nickel, and silver respectively. As will be seen, has the bit here been given the low value of one-fifth cent.

To Mexico falls the honor of having the oldest and most varied coinage of any country on the American continent. During three and a half centuries—from Cortez to Maximilian, and down to Zapata and Villa of the present day—Mexico has been coining silver dollars. The "pillar dollar," "windmill dollar," "cob dollar," "cast dollar," the silver dollars of the ill-fated Maximilian, the "Muerta Huerta" dollar, the Zapata dollar, Villa's Parral and Chihuahua dollars, and many others tell us of the tragic history of Mexico. In spite of its former wealth of silver very little is to be found in the country at the present time.

New U. S. Coins to be Issued

The treasury department announces that after July 1 it is going to mint dimes, quarters and half-dollars of different design. The new coins will be welcomed, provided they are as artistic as the buffalo nickels and the last series of gold pieces. Those innovations have been particularly fine, and have done much to redeem our coinage from the reproach of ugliness and conventional mediocrity.

A special effort has been made to render the half-dollar attractive, in order to restore that coin to its old popularity. It seems to have fallen into general disuse lately. It remains to be seen whether the demand for it can be stimulated by embellishing it with "a full length figure of Liberty, with a background of the American flag flying to the breeze—the goddess striding toward the dawn of a new day, carrying oak and olive branches, symbolic of civil and military glory." Most of us will probably prefer the reverse side, showing an eagle perched on a mountain crag. We are strangely fond of eagles, especially on coins. The chief characteristic of the new quarter is a full-length figure of Liberty in an attitude of preparedness, typifying the awakening of the country to the need of defense. The Liberty goddess is likewise prominent on the dime.

The descriptions arouse fears that maybe there's too much fussy symbolism in these coins, instead of simplicity in the designs and life in the figures. But we'll hope for the best. And even if they're bad, few of us will refuse them on grounds of artistic criticism.

PRICES REALIZED AT THE SALE OF THE PROF. H. L. HUTT COLLECTION.

Sold by B. Max Mehl on July 12, 1916.

Breton 530. Very Fine	$ 3.15
B. 540. Bridge Token. Fine	24.75
B. 559. Bridge Token. Good	4.20
B. 665. Bridge Token. Ex. Rare	3.50
B. 717. Very Good	3.15
B. 880. Fine and rare	2.30
B. 970. Very Fine	4.40
B. 977. Very Fine	10.50
B. 984. Good	4.20
B. 1008. Fine	26.25
1776 Continental Dollar. Pewter. Very Good	12.50
1796 Silver Dollar. Very rare	10.00
1797 Dollar. Very rare	12.40
1836 Silver Dollar. Very rare	24.50
1858 Dollar. Extremely rare	48.00
1904 Dollar. Rare	3.50
1876 Dollar. Very good	6.50
1886 Dollar. Very rare	22.00
1859 Dollar. S mint. Very rare	6.00
1871 Dollar. S mint. Good	30.00
1882 Dollar. S mint. Ex. fine	7.50
1794 Half Dollar. Good	4.50
1796 Quarter Dollar. Very good	6.25
1853 Quarter Dollar. No arrows. Fine	10.75
1877 Twenty-cent Piece. Proof	8.00
1861 $10.00 Colorado. Gold. Very good	25.00
1849 California $5.00. Moffat & Co. Very good	10.00
1849 $5.00 California. N. G. & N. Fine	31.00
1848 $2.50 CAL. Fine	36.00
Carolina $5.00. C. Beehtler. Fine	25.00
1856 Flying Eagle Small Cent. Very good	7.10
1798 Quarter Eagle. Very fine	26.00
1802 Quarter Eagle. Fine	15.00
1805 Quarter Eagle. Fine	11.00
1807 Quarter Eagle. Very fine	10.00
1833 Quarter Eagle. Ex. fine	11.00
1798 Half Eagle. Fine	10.00
1800 Half Eagle. Extremely fine	7.60
1806 Half Eagle. Practically Uncireulated	8.00
1849 Oregon $5.00 Gold Piece. Very good	62.50
1814 Dime	2.10
1862 $10.00 United States Currency. Crisp	12.00

The sale contained over Fifteen Hundred lots; and notwithstanding the fact that the sale was held in July, it was one of the most liberally patronized sales of the season, and the competition for all interesting pieces was very keen. Over two hundred bidders were represented and all but about ten per cent were successful buyers.

The complete list of prices showing amounts realized for each and every lot may be had for only fifty cents.

A Machine that Chews Money.

Five million dollars a day in wornout paper money was destroyed by machinery in the Treasury Department, at Washington, during the fiscal year. Two tons of this redeemed paper, amounting to over three hundred and fifty million bank notes, with a face value of more than a billion and a half dollars, passed through the macerating machinery.

This money, after being sent to the Treasury for redemption, is carefully counted, made into piles, first punched and then cut in half, after which a committee of treasury employes sees that it is chewed up in a machine made for the purpose. It is said that the average life of a one-dollar bill is one year.

The great growth of this work since the days of the Civil War, when paper money was first issued, is indicated by comparison with figures for the fiscal year 1865, when seventy million pieces of redeemed currency were destroyed of a face value of $124,219,920, which included a large amount of fractional currency.

The government first issued paper money in connection with the Civil War finances, and Secretary Chase's regulations for the destruction of notes unfit for circulation were issued as a result of an act of Congress. In Secretary Chase's time paper money and securities were destroyed by burning. Experience showed that this was not the safest plan in connection with the destruction of distinctive paper, because it is difficult to burn bundles of money, and undestroyed pieces may escape through the chimney. For this reason the act of June 23, 1874, authorized the destruction by maceration. The destruction of these once valuable bits of paper has always been witnessed by a joint committee, appointed for the purpose.

Secretary McAdoo has recently modified the work of destroying the paper money so as to meet present conditions better. Now each member of the committee will check the money and securities delivered as well as witness their destruction. In the past, one member of the committee has usually verified the amount and the whole committee merely witnessed the destruction. The new regulations are designed to simplify the work and throw greater safeguards around the destruction of money and securities. The record shows that the paper money destroyed in 1915 had a total weight of five hundred and ninety tons. —Popular Science Monthly.

Annual Report of Philadelphia Mint.

The report of coinage at the Philadelphia mint for the fiscal year ended June 30, made public recently by Robert Clark, superintendent of coinage, shows that 150,101,312 pieces, representing a value of $42,384,876, were turned out. Of this total 46,032,982 pieces valued at $27,642,387 were for foreign account.

The Republic of Cuba, establishing for the first time its own currency, took more than 3,000,000 pieees of gold, silver and nickel with an aggregate value of $25,958,585, while Central and Southern America took the remainder of the coins out. The States totaled 109,068,330 pieces with a value of $14,742,731. It includes all denominations from pennies to double eagles.

Third Annual Outing of the Rochester Numismatic Association.

With the weather perfect, on the morning of July 6th four automobile loads of numismatists left the Hotel Rochester for their Third Annual Outing.

The first stop was made at Mumford, where a most interesting half hour was spent at the State Fish Hatcheries. The next stop was at LeRoy, where, after refreshments, the party left for Warsaw, where luncheon awaited the party. This drive took the party through beautiful Wyoming Valley, which was greatly enjoyed by the party, as the Valley showed to the best advantage owing to the beautiful clear weather.

While in Warsaw, a most interesting visit was paid to Miss Lawrence, daughter of the Quartermaster General of the U. S. Army during the Civil War. The party were shown many relics of the Civil War, the most interesting of which was the Confederate flag that was captured at the fall of Vicksburg.

At 2:30 the party left Warsaw, going up the valley through Rock Glen, Gainesville, over the Divide to Castile and Perry, into Genesee Valley, stopping at Mount Morris to view the High Bank, which was a revelation to most of the party.

Avon was reached at 5:45, where all enjoyed a chicken dinner at the Livingston Inn, and the "official" photograph of the party was taken by Mr. Bunnell.

The return for home began at 7:30. Rochester was reached just before dark, and before departing an impromptu meeting was called and a vote of thanks extended to the committee who had the outing in charge.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

New York Numismatic Club.

Regular meeting was held at Park Avenue Hotel, Friday evening, July 14, 1916, President Boyd presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Beatty, Beesley, Belden, Boyd, Butler, Davison, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Nangle, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood and Wormser.

During the exhibition, Mr. and Mrs. Moulton visited the meeting as guests of Mr. Davison.

After the roll call, the minutes of the last meeting were approved as read.

The secretary read letters from Mr. Schulman and Mr. de Lagerberg, which contained personal matters of interest to the Club.

The Executive Committee reported as the subject of the next meeting, "Counterfeit Coins and Paper Money."

Mr. Heaton read a very interesting clipping in connection with the history of the Star Spangled Banner.

Messrs. Proskey, Frey, Butler and Wormser each made a few remarks in explanation of the exhibits which they were showing in connection with the subject of the evening, "Coins not Circular."

Mr. Frey called special attention to the exhibit of several coins in beautiful condition by Mr. Wm. F. Beller, which he had kindly loaned to the Club, although not a member.

By Mr. Frey:

Daric of Darius III. B. C. 337-330.

Assam, Octagonal 1/8 Mohur of Gaurianatha Simha (1780-1796).

Java, 24 Krishnalas (Millies, No. 1).

Hindustan, Schah Jehan (1628-1658) Square Mohur of year 14. (B. M. Cat. No. 577).

Mozambique, 2½ Mizquals.

Japan, Bunsei Koban Kin (Circa 1820), Munro xx. 2.

Japan, Tempo Koban of 1 Ryo. (1852). Munro xix. 2.

Japan, Varieties of ½, 1 and 2 Bu.

Austria, Square ducat for Vienna, 1529.

Nuremburg, Square "hobby-horse" ducat, 1650.

Nuremburg, Set of 1/16, ⅛, ¼, ½, and 1 Ducat, 1700.

California, Octagonal dollars, 1853, 1875.

By Mr. Wm. F. Beller:

Middelburg, Square Necessity Crown, 1522.

Amsterdam, 40 Stivers 1578, 50 Stivers 1672.

Saxony, Square Crown 1693, upon the conferring of the order of the Garter. Johann Georg Square Crown with his portrait.

By Mr. Butler:

Salzburg, 1593 Single and Double Klippe "Tower" Thaler.

Transylvania, Gabriel Bethlen, 1627, Kashau Klippe Double Thaler.

By Mr. Beesley:

Sweden, Plate Money, ½, 1 and 4 Daler of King Frederick, and 2 Daler of Ulrike Eleonore.

England, Henry I. ½ penny.

Newark—Charles I., 1646, sixpence.

Several Japanese and Indian irregular shaped coins.

By Mr. Wormser:

Strassburg, Klippe Thaler upon jubilee of Reformation, 1617.

Lippe, Simon Henry Adolph, Octagonal ½ Thaler upon 33rd birthday.

Lippe, Frederick Adolph, Octagonal Thaler 1715.

Lippe, Frederick Adolph, Klippe ¼ Thaler 1713 upon 46th birthday.

Denmark, Christian V. Medallic Klippe Thaler upon his coronation, with picture of elephant.

Ost-Friesland, Enno Klippe Double Thaler, 1615.

Salzburg, Paris Klippe Triple Thaler, 1629.

Saxony, Klippe Thaler 1669 upon christening of Prince. Klippe Thaler 1697 upon visit of Polish Magnates. Klippe Thaler 1678 upon opening of new shooting gallery. Weissenfels, Klippe Thaler, 1717, upon pigeon shooting.

Augsburg, Octagonal Kreuzer.

By Mr. Proskey: As usual, large exhibit of copper, nickel, gold and silver in irregular and odd shapes, not circular, among them large series of coins of Siam, Japan, China, and Oriental countries. A considerable collection of German and especially Saxon Klippe Thalers, and Nuremburg Klippe Gold and Silver coins; a California $50.00 gold piece.

Dr. Valentine also exhibited the forerunner of the United States Fractional Currency, a card board ticket, 1c. issued by J. Bilyou Jr., 19th St. and Broadway, about 1862.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

[July was a warm month—very warm, and when the blood runs hot through our veins, things are said and written that would not happen in cooler weather. We fancy this "poem" is the unfortunate result of a heat wave. We print it as a warning to the author—and trust he will not offend again.—Editor.]

Tiberius Claudius Nero was a Roman stern and bold;
Of his deeds imperialistic the half has ne'er been told.
His wife—Vipsania Agrippina—was the daughter of Agrippa.
And her mother was Pomponia—a famous Roman belle.
(When I get this poem finished I will shoot it off to Mehl.)

I'm sure that he will publish it. His Monthly is the best
Given up to Numismatics—to the Clubs—and all the rest
That pleases a collector—keeps his interest e'er alive
And guarantees his working in the Numismatic Hive.
For Mehl himself's a worker, he never was a shirker;
Some day he'll run for President and then I'll vote for him.

His contributors are many—an able lot of men;
But I dare not say on paper what I really think of them.
"The Mysterious Busts on Breton"—the numbers I forget;
I promptly skipped that paper for the learned writer's sake,
For most Canadian tokens bear a year that's not their date;
It's not their date of issue—and that stamps them false and bold.
Half the truth about these tokens has never yet been told.

These verses—they grow longer with each succeeding verse,
And what to me's more serious, the rhyme keeps getting worse.
So I'll bridle my Pegasus and go out and chop some wood,
But—I'd like to write a "Poem"—Oh, I only wish I could.

TENNYFELLOW LONGSON.

A Chance for Collectors.

Those who follow the leisurely study and pursuit of philately and numismatics will be interested in two events of more than passing interest. There is a prospect now of adding to collections new coins and medals issued in connection with the war. War medals may be picked up at any time, but it is seldom an opportunity offers for securing a medal struck for popular distribution in commemoration of some great national victory. The naval victory, known variously as the Battle of Jutland and the Battle of Horn's Reef, won in the present war over the German fleet, is to be specially honored by the issue of a medal. Prizes are offered by the President of the Numismatic Society for the best model of a medal to commemorate Admiral Jellicoe's victory, profits arising from the sale of the medals to go towards the fund for the relief of disabled seamen. The successful competitor must aim at a combination of simplicity with boldness, and finish and precision in modelling.

To philatelists the passing of Germany's colonial Empire brings into the market the Kaiser's colonial postage. Chambers' Journal, in an article, calls attention to "The Passing of the 'Hohenzollerns'." The headline is literally true, although not of so sweeping a character as it seems to imply. Ger-

many's postage stamps for her disappearing colonies bear an imprint of the Kaiser's yacht, the "Hohenzollern." It is this part of Hohenzollernism that is passing away. The stamps are about all that will live to remind the world of Germany's colonial possessions. Stocks of these stamps found in the captured colonies have been overprinted by the Allies. In Samoa, Kiau-Chau, New Guinea, the Cameroons, Southwest and East Africa the "Hohenzollern" stamps bear the superscription of a greater Caesar.

War stamps and war medals will always possess a fascination for collectors, but the passing of the Hohenzollern stamps in Germany's captured colonies is an event unique in the history of philatelism. —Toronto Globe.

Funny Money in China.

A dollar of our money in Chinese cash weighs eighteen pounds. In Chente Fu, which is a small village where white people seldom go, I was going along with my guide when I saw a small peddler beside the street with some fine Peking pears. I bought six of them for 2½ cents, and in payment gave the street peddler a 20-cent piece. He turned it over and over, and tested it with his thumb nail, which was surely made for the purpose. The peddler gave back the coin and said that he would not take it. The guide asked him why and he explained that he had never seen any such money and that it might be bad. So I had to dig up some coppers. In all his life the peddler had never seen a piece of silver money. There are thousands and thousands of people in China whose financial dealings never amount to enough to have it put into silver; who are born, grow old and pass to their reward without ever having seen a piece of silver.

All China is suspicious about money. Every time you put down a dime or a piece of silver the other person tests it before he will take it, ringing it on the counter or on the pavement. You can't give a merchant the right amount of change and walk off; he won't let you leave until he has tested every piece—and he always gives back one or two pieces. He wouldn't think very much of himself as a merchant if he didn't refuse some of your money.

If you buy something in one part of a store, get your change and walk to another counter and buy something else and give the change that has just been given you, the second clerk on general principles will refuse part of it.

Before you buy anything your money has to have the once over. Sometimes it is maddening to have to wait while your money is tested. One day I rushed up to catch a train, with just a minute to spare; one of my dollars was bad and before change could be made the train had rumbled off into the silent night without me. —Homer Croy in Leslie's.

Facts About U. S. Coins.

The director of the mint is called on to answer such a wide range of questions concerning the values of old and new coins and medals that he has found it necessary to issue circulars covering matters of this sort.

Mutilated or uncurrent United States gold and silver coin is purchased as bullion. The mint has no pattern pieces for sale. The government pays no premium for the return of any of its coins or paper money. New coins

cannot be struck until authorized by an act of congress. The mint supplies United States coins only, and not of any past date.

The coinage of the following coins ceased in the years named: Half and one-cent, copper, in 1857; one-cent, nickel, 1864; half-dime and two cents, silver, and two cents, bronze, in 1873; twenty cents, silver, 1878; trade dollars, 1883; one dollar and three dollars, gold, and two cents, nickel, 1889. The Columbian half-dollar was coined in 1893. The Lafayette dollar was struck in 1899, the date on the coin (1900) being that of the unveiling of the memorial.

There are certain markings on every United States coin that enables the place of its coinage to be located. Those struck at Philadelphia mint have no mark, but those struck at all other mints are distinguished by a small letter on the reverse, near the bottom. These letters are C, for Charlotte, N. C., discontinued in 1861; CC, for Carson City, Nev., discontinued in 1893; D, for Dahlonega, Ga., discontinued in 1861; O, for New Orleans, and S, for San Francisco.

The coins of the United States now authorized by law are: In gold, double eagle, eagle, half-eagle and quarter-eagle; in silver, half-dollar, quarter-dollar and dime; minor, five-cent, nickel, and one-cent, bronze. A person may buy a proof set of gold coins from the mint for $38.50, and a proof set of silver and minor coins for $1.50. When the business of the mints is slack, medals may be struck from dies furnished by individuals, public institutions and incorporated societies, at a charge sufficient to cover the cost of the operation and the value of the metal. —The American Boy.

CURIOUS COINS

The threepenny coin is the smallest in circulation in Britain. It looks small, indeed, when placed side by side with their larger silver coin, the five-shilling piece. The latter is twenty times the weight of the former. But what would the threepenny piece look like if placed side by side with a coin over two feet in diameter and weighing eighty pounds? Such coins have been quarried in the Island of Yap, one of the group of Caroline Islands. These "Yap dollars" are circular discs of coralline rocks, some three inches or four inches in thickness and of a dull white color. But, Speaking of big coins, the one possessing the highest intrinsic value of any circulated in recent times, is probably the gold ingot, or "loof," of Anam, a French colony in Eastern Africa. This flat gold coin was worth $325, and had its value written on it in Indian ink. Other big coins are the obang of Japan, worth $50; the banda of Ashanti, worth $45, and the rare California $50 gold piece.

OUR GOLD AND SILVER

It is not alone in commerce that the United States has increased in wealth during the past year. The production of the precious metals in the United States for 1915 showed an increase of $6,503,900 in gold, and of 2,505,000 ounces of silver over 1914. The total production for 1915 was 4,887,604 ounces of gold, valued at $101,035,700, and 74,961,075 ounces of silver, valued at $37,397,300.

California led the rest of the states in the production of gold; Nevada in the production of silver. Colorado was almost tied with California in gold production, with Alaska a poor third, while Montana, Utah and Idaho were but slightly behind Nevada in silver.

CLEOPATRA COIN

Ancient Bronze Coin of this Famous Queen

Ptolemy VIII. B. C. 130. Portrait of Cleopatra with long curls. Reverse, the famous "Ptolemy Eagle" standing on Thunderbolt.

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B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH - TEXAS

RARE SET ANCIENT
Ptolemy Coins

Ptolemy III. B. C. 246-221
(Over 2,000 Years Old)

Obverse, Head of Zeaus. Reverse, Eagle on Thunderbolt. Set of five coins, different sizes, 28 to 42 mm. Two of the rare variety with TWO Eagles on reverse.

The Set, $5.50

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German Prison-Camp Currency
or Prisoners of War Money

1, 2 and 5 Pfenig Notes

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ONLY TEN SETS IN STOCK

Price 50c Per Set of Three Notes

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I STILL WANT TO PURCHASE

THE FOLLOWING U. S. GOLD COINS

Send list of what you have to offer, stating condition and price.

$20.00

Philadelphia:
1856
1857
1859
1862
1863
1867
1870
1871
1881
1882
1886

Carson City:
1871
1872
1877
1878

Denver:
1906
1909
1912
1914

New Orleans:
1854
1855
1856
1857
1859
1860
1879

San Francisco:
1854
1858
1860
1861
1912
1915

$10.00

Philadelphia:
1846
1857
1858
1859
1862
1863
1868
1877
1908 No Motto

Carson City:
1874
1875
1876
1877
1880
1882
1884

Denver:
1908 No Motto
1908 Motto
1911
1912
1913

New Orleans:
1852
1855
1881
1882
1883
1888
1893
1897
1899
1904
1861 *

San Francisco:
1858
1859
1864
1865

$10.00--Cont.

1867
1868
1869
1872
1873
1874
1876
1877
1894
1900
1911
1914
1915

$5.00

Philadelphia:
1798 { Small / Eagle
1815
1822
1825
1828
1829 2nd type
1842
1860
1862
1863
1866
1869
1870
1875

Carson City:
1871
1872
1873
1874
1876
1878
1881

Denver:
1908
1909

$5.00--Cont.

1910
1911
1912
1913

New Orleans:
1841
1851
1892
1909

San Francisco:
1854
1857
1858
1860
1861
1862
1863
1864
1868
1874
1876
1908
1914
1915

$2.50

Philadelphia:
1841

Charlotte:
1859

Denver:
1911
1912
1913

New Orleans:
1841
1848

San Francisco:
1858

ADDRESS

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH - - - TEXAS

VOLUME VII. NUMBER 10
WHOLE NUMBERS 82

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION
IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
FOREIGN $1.00
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

OCTOBER 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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that

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Numismatist

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher
301-304 Commonwealth Building, Fort Worth, Texas

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Vol. VII. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, OCTOBER, 1916 No. 10

With The Editor

We have now entered the fourth and last quarter of the year. The different Numismatic Clubs and Associations have about completed their programmes for the coming season. Many coin exhibits will be made and many papers of great interest read before the different societies. All this work falls on the officers and a few of the more earnest and energetic members. The majority are content to see their names among the list of those present. Numismatics cannot advance as it should do unless all do their share. An ordinary member may not care to prepare a paper, and because he has not an 1804 dollar—he may hesitate to make an exhibit. But there is one thing he can do—interest one of his friends in his hobby—take him as his guest to one of the meetings—and there will be a new member very shortly.

During the present year, up to Sept. 1st, there have been thirty-eight new members admitted to the A. N. A. and nineteen members proposed these. Nine members between them proposed twenty-four; the other ten—one each.

Surely there are more than nineteen members in the A. N. A. who might share in this work. We venture to say there are at least one hundred who might—if they would—secure one new member before the close of the year.

Mr. Collector—you who are not a member—if you have no other personal friend to propose you for membership in the A. N. A., send us your application—we will gladly help you to a seat on the wagon.

Many members are fully capable of doing some good missionary work on numismatic lines. There are many clubs and societies of young people in connection with the different churches that would welcome a numismatic evening for their members. A paper might be prepared and read, and a small exhibit made that would arouse great interest among those present. A leaflet explaining the aims and advantages of joining the A. N. A. might be prepared, and sanctioned by the proper officers, and distributed at these meetings. It needs but a trifle to start some. One of the keenest collectors we have ever met told us his interest in coins started the day he found a Ceylon tree cent in a pound of tea. "Great trees from little acorns grow."

Considerable interest continues to be taken by an ever growing number of collectors in the Jackson, or Hard Times Tokens. Nearly every collector has a number of these that he considers should have been included by Mr. Low in his list of this series. Still it must be remembered that strictly speaking the "Jacksons" are political tokens, and may well be kept separate from store cards of the same period. Many collectors deem it best to confine their interests to those having some direct connection with the movement for—or against—the U. S. Bank, and other political questions of that period. The question of national preparedness was before the country then as it is today, and its advocates had their slogan—"Millions For Defence," as applicable then as now.

Many who hold a strict view regarding these political tokens are still interested in, and collecting the contemporary series of store cards. But they collect them as store cards—not as hard times tokens. Many of the undated cards are as interesting as the dated ones. Who thinks the less of the N. Y. card of H. Law, because it is undated? This series undoubtedly deserves more attention than it has received of late years, and we are glad to note the revived interest being taken in it.

We recently met an old lady who showed us with the greatest pride a medalet she has had in her possession for some years. The word "some" is used here in its widest sense. It was given to her in September 1831, and was issued to commemorate the coronation of William IV. and Adelaide, his Consort, as King and Queen of Great Britain in that year. At this time she was six years of age, and distinctly remembers the rejoicings that took place then—especially the bonfires on the hills around. Another treasure showed was a six-penny piece dated 1757. Both these were given her by her mother. She is at present actively engaged in knitting socks for soldier grandsons engaged in overseas service. We fancy the holding of the medalet establishes a record for actual possession.

The enlistment of over three hundred and fifty thousand Canadians as soldiers has created great interest in Britain, and a demand for things Canadian. The increased demand there for medals and tokens belonging to Canada has had the natural effect of raising prices, the demand being much greater than the supply. In a numismatic circular just received we note evidence of this. What is known as the "City Bank mule," a penny token having the obverse of B. 526 combined with the reverse of B. 521, is offered in extra fine condition for thirty-five dollars. The Montreal and Lachine token B. 530, Lesslie twopence B. 717, and the Bank of Upper Canada 1850 penny B. 719, having a dot or pellet between the horns of the cornucopia, are offered at fifteen dollars each. A set of Hudson Bay tokens, B. 926-7-8-9, are valued at twenty dollars the set. For the rare 1813 Wellington penny, B. 974, seventeen dollars and a half is asked. The R. H. penny and farthing, B. 989-991, are valued at five, and seven dollars and a half, respectively. The number of bids received for the rare 1820 blacksmith token, B. 1008, which sold for $26.25 in our July sale, was a surprise to us. Collectors we have never known to bid on Canadian coins before sent bids on it, and if we may judge from their bids, wanted it badly.

Mexico has fallen into line. In the Province of Yucatan last New Years Day there were a quarter of a million slaves. Today there is not one. This reform came into effect in February through the personal initiative of the new Governor, General Salvador Alvvarado, born thirty-five years ago in Sonora. He is said to be a soldier and a socialist, an idealist and yet a practical business man, a believer in personal liberty and a military martinet, a thoughtful student and a man of quick impulse. He lives in poverty and simplicity, in an ordinary house without the protection of a single sentry. We may expect to hear much of such a man in the future.

It seems as if we shall have to wait some time before coins with the new designs are issued. Possibly we may not have them this year. Meanwhile the old issue are still good for all business purposes, and the butcher and grocer make no strong protest when receiving them in payment for goods purchased.

We were recently shown a Queen Anne farthing of the common type, dated 1714. It was of pure yellow brass on a thin flange with a rounded edge. It is from the same dies as the thick copper one with a square edge. This in brass, however, is new to us. If any of our readers have this coin in brass, we shall be pleased to hear from them.

English, French and German medals commemorating the historic events of the great war now in progress, continue to be struck in great numbers. It is not, however, by the issue of these medals that the war will be decided. Some of them—more especially those commemorating the destruction of the Lusitania—seem to show questionable taste. The future will give a proper value to such issues.

Now, Mr. Collector, now is the time to start about getting a new A. N. A. member for 1917. You will wish to be one of the hundred—make an early start, and if you can induce two to join, so much the better. Remember, the A. N. A. expects every one to do their duty.

Famous Collection Sold

We have just learned that the Collection of coins and medals belonging to the Pioneer Society of California and exhibited at the San Francisco Mint, has just been purchased by a San Francisco collector. The Collection has been for sale for several years, but a purchaser was never found who was willing to pay the price asked,—$20,000.00. We understand that the price paid was considerably less than the price asked.

While the collection can hardly be called a "Collection," as it is mostly an accumulation, but its attraction to the purchaser was undoubtedly the Massachusetts & California Co. $5.00 piece in gold, and the unique Kohler $50.00 ingot "slug," which is believed to be the "daddy" of all $50.00 "slugs."

We are not informed as to the exact price paid, but an offer of $7.500.00 tendered by B. Max Mehl was refused recently.

CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

of the

American Numismatic Association, Held at Baltimore, Md., September 23-27, 1916

The 1916 Annual Convention of the American Numismatic Association was called from refreshment to labor by President Pro Tem. Judson Brenner promptly at 10 A. M., Saturday, Sept. 23rd, 1916, in the spacious Convention Auditorium of the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, Md.

The Committee on Credentials, composed of Waldo C. Moore, Fred E. Merritt and Harry H. Yawger, reported that proxies were held as follows:

Fred E. Merritt	3	Henry Chapman	8
John E. Morse	5	F. G. Duffield	17
Edgar H. Adams	2	Geo. J. Bauer	1
S. Hudson Chapman	4	Robert Hosbury	1
R. W. McLachlan	15	John M. Oliver	2
Farran Zerbe	3	Carl Wurtzbach	1
Judson Brenner	2	Dr. J. M. Henderson	3
Waldo C. Moore	85	W. C. Stone	2
Elmer S. Sears	2	B. Max Mehl	3
		The Committee	14

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Membership Report.

Honorary: San Francisco Convention reported 12; remaining 12.

Active: San Francisco Convention reported 513; new members since added 44; reinstated 6. Loss by death, resignation and non-payment of dues 81. August 1, 1916, total active members, dues paid to December 31, 1916. 482.

Branch: Western Pennsylvania, also Boston Numismatic Societies, dues paid to December 31, 1916.

Deaths: H. A. Ramsden, Yokohoma, Japan; Gustav Jaegg, New York City; J. W. Hutchison, Corning, Iowa; Chas. H. Conover, Chicago, Ill.; Harry E. Montgomery, Buffalo, N. Y.; Herbert Nicklewicz, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Financial Report.

Receipts:

August 1, 1915, Balance	$240.82	
Fees, dues, etc.	292.75	
		$533.57

Expenditures:

Insurance, storage, stamps, service, stenographer, printing, etc.	$299.33
July 31, 1916, Balance per books of the General Secretary	$234.24

During the year $699.00 total remittance was made the manager by the General Secretary account subscriptions to "The Numismatist."

Dr. J. M. Henderson, Attorney Aaron Du Bois and Prof. E. Vermont

Moore reported that the books and accounts of both the Treasurer and the General Secretary were audited August 10, 1916, and were found correct.

The Treasurer reported a balance of $234.24—a very healthy condition for the Association's finances.

Editor Duffield of "The Numismatist" read a very interesting paper, entitled "Maryland Numismatics." Great credit is due the Editor for his untiring effort in preparing such a masterly discourse, thereby placing forever "Maryland, My Maryland" on the Numismatic map.

Mr. Duffield said in part, as follows:

The people of Maryland have at different times shown a disposition to do things their own way, regardless of the conventional forms of society. To this trait of character is no doubt due the practice they established early in their career as Colonists of growing their money on bushes, instead of manufacturing it in the time-honored way. Of course, the tobacco they raised wasn't actual money, but it bought for them what they needed or what they wanted, paid their taxes and otherwise liquidated indebtedness, and the yellow metal disks in use today which bear Uncle Sam's guarantee can do no more for us than the brown leaves of tobacco which the colonists of Maryland grew on their plantations did for them. It was their money.

While specimens of almost all kinds of money and substitutes for money have been preserved and are in the cabinets of collectors, it seems that none of the Maryland tobacco money has been handed down to us. If it had been, and a piece should appear on the coin market, the catalogue description would probably read something like this:

> A genuine specimen of the tobacco money used in Maryland about 1650. The leaf measures 13 15/16 inches in length and 5⅞ inches in width. No doubt this leaf of tobacco was once part of the private stock of Lord Baltimore, and possibly may have been grown upon the plantation of Margaret Brent and cured under her personal supervision. It has several large but unimportant nicks on the edge, and there is a perforation 29 mm. in the lower left-hand side. The stem is broken in seven places, but can easily be mended, otherwise fine. Splendid light chocolate color. Extremely rare. Only one or two other specimens known. It should easily bring umpsty dollars.

A medal issued in Maryland a few years ago deserves special mention for several reasons. It is not a work of art, but perhaps other medals have been struck that were less beautiful. It is struck in lead or a metal resembling it, and measures 3½ inches in diameter. It is of the political class, and evidently was issued in Southern Maryland, where politics thrives luxuriantly throughout the year without artificial irrigation. On one side of the medal is an elephant bearing the letters "G. O. P.," beneath it, "1904." The inscription surrounding it is as follows: "Boy's Remember The Main and Vote For Tedie That He Remain." The other side has a heraldic eagle with the usual clouds and stars above and the arrows and olive branch in its talons, and the inscription, "There Is Lots Of Mudd In Maryland But None Like Sydney E. Mudd." For the information of our visitors it should be said that Sidney E. Mudd ably represented Southern Maryland in Congress for several terms, but died a few years ago, and the district is now represented by his son of the

same name. I know of only one specimen of this medal, which is exhibited here today with other Maryland medals. Perhaps others were also issued.

At 1:30 P. M. the Convention adjourned to meet Monday, Sept. 25, at 10:30 A. M., at the Institute.

Sunday, Sept. 24, was given over to the exhibitions of Numismatic specimens at the Peabody Institute.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

The second business session of the Convention convened at 11 A. M., Monday, Sept. 25, with Dr. Henderson in the Chair, pro tem.

The Committee on Election being ready, announced the result of the A. N. A. Election as follows:

For President, H. O. Granberg, Oshkosh, Wis.
For First Vice President, W. C. Stone, Springfield, Mass.
For Second Vice President, D. A. Williams, Baltimore, Md.
For Librarian, H. H. Yawger, Rochester, N. Y.
For General Secretary, John M. Oliver, Springfield, Mass.
For Treasurer, Herbert R. Wolcott, Springfield, Mass.
For Chairman, Board of Governors, Carl Wurtzbach, Lee, Mass.
For Members, Board of Governors:
Judson Brenner, Youngstown, Ohio.
Howard R. Newcomb, Detroit, Mich.
Fred E. Merritt, Rochester, N. Y.
S. Hudson Chapman, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Chair announced that the Committee, consisting of the Chair and General Secretary Moore, appointed for needed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws was ready to report. The proposed changes were then read and some explanations made. Upon motion this matter was made the first order of business at Tuesday's session.

"Why Such Cranks As We Are Allowed to Exist" was the text which Mr. Carl Wurtzbach chose for his discussion. Because of Mr. Wurtzbach's inability to attend the Convention, his paper was read by Mr. Elmer S. Sears. The entire discourse was full of wit and catchy things as only the gentleman from Lee knows how to present. In this paper the author made a strong plea for greater effort on the part of the Association members, having in mind always a greater and better Association.

In part, Mr. Wurtzbach remarked:

We are cranks, bores, hobbyites, etc., allowed to exist because we are thought harmless—innocent, but deluded members of society. We get the bug, get acquainted with a few dealers, and our families get the hook to the extent that they have a fellow feeling with those Western editors who after continuing the Bazoo Blazing Blizzard for two years, delivered their valedictory in their last issue as follows, changing Tennyson to fit the occasion:

Break, Break, Break on thy cold grey stones, O Sea,
And if you broke for a thousand years
You couldn't be as broke as we.

How many of us could join in the Chorus after running up against an auction sale and having a few copper plunks in lieu of our year's salary?

What right to live have people who on a cold night in winter, when the popcorn, cider and checker board are most inviting, will bunch off into a corner by themselves and sit by the hour looking at a battered piece of silver just wishing some ignoramus had known enough not to punch a hole in it, and occasionally changing the thought into the desire to punch said hole in said ignoramus?

Once more I desire to emphasize what I believe is a golden opportunity for every one of us, that is, enlisting the interest of our youth in numismatics. Surely one of the distressing signs of our times is that lack of reverence, that departure from all seriousness, that shirking of responsibility and obligation so prevalent among our young people. If unchecked it certainly leads to consequences unpleasant to contemplate. I never knew a boy interested in coins who did not become thoughtful, reverent, studious, enjoying his play more than ever and in every way a better boy. It is so easy to get them interested. I urge a greater effort on the part of our Association in this direction.

I cannot refrain from mentioning as a partial answer to the question the good fellowship of this Association. We meet in annual Convention after devoting for a year any **spare** time to our hobby. We meet as fine a body of men as it is possible to get together. We form life-long friendships, absorb accumulated knowledge, enjoy many satisfactions and separate, better equipped to perform the manifold duties incumbent on every good Numismatist. If you and I have made good as members of this Association then we may justly claim that such cranks as we have **earned** the right to exist.

Waldo C. Moore read an interesting paper, choosing for his subject "Numismatic Allusion." Some of the high points presented by Mr. Moore were as follows:

Modern experience shows increasingly the difficulty of developing a love for collecting through what is disliked.

Enjoyment of numismatics is a progressive science.

Experience has taught that by starting with the right specimens a lasting love for numismatics can be developed.

Greater essay should be made to stress the educational side of Collectors.

The discussion of numismatics with the interested ought to be as natural as breathing.

Numismatic knowledge never drops down like manna from heaven.

Examples kept in hiding are very much like so many words unused, they are of small value to the individual or the public.

Numismatic Collectors should get on the firing line and bear the armors of the best knights living.

If I knew that a word of mine
Might linger the whole day through
And lighten some heart
With a heavier part,
I wouldn't withhold it;
Would you?

Promptly at 12:15 P. M. the official photograph of the Convention was snapped.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

Tuesday's business session was rapped to order with Editor Duffield acting as Chairman, pro tem.

As was previously announced, the first order of business at this session—the needed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws of the A. N. A.—was taken up for discussion. The General Secretary then read the Committee's suggested changes, section by section, and the Convention debated on each section as read. On motion the Committee was enlarged, ,Messrs. Wood Brenner and Duffield being added, and were given instructions to further thresh out the matter and report at tomorrow's session.

The Convention ordered the membership list printed in next July issue of the official organ, "The Numismatist."

At this hour the Convention had the pleasure of listening to a discourse on "The Development of Canadian Numismatic Art During the Past Eighty

American Numismatic Association Convention, Baltimore, Sept. 23-27, 1916.

Years" delivered by Mr. McLachlan of Montreal. The following are some of the main points expressed in this paper:

As coins were primarily and mainly intended to be used as counters to facilitate barter or exchange of commodities, the idea of the original makers was simply to impress them with the government mark to authenticate their circulating value. There was therefore no thought of the secondary purpose of an artistic effect. This came later and gradually.

Canada had no early coinage of its own, for the little metallic currency used in the country was imported and like most of that in circulation in those

days bore on one side the bust of the reigning sovereign with the royal arms or other heraldic emblem on the reverse. The first home-manufactured coins had no originality, they were rude imitations of the "Tiffins" and the "Harps" and the "Blacksmiths."

Arnault seems to have tried to express some original art in his grouping of the bouquet. The rarity of two varieties of these coins—the "Pro bono publico" and the "Half-penny bouquet"—make them one of the most interesting of the Canadian series. His most original piece was the Moslem token or card which bears on one side a still and on the other side a beer barrel.

According to the belief of Numismatists many of the better class of dies were cut by Joseph Moore of Birmingham, England. More recently, however, all the dies have been engraved in Canada.

The Life Saving Medal by Philip Herbert, presenting the scene of the saving of a drowning man, shows higher touches of art than on any hitherto struck in Canada.

Dr. French's paper on "Some Cents and Nonsense" was very pleasing to the ear and excited much laughter. After giving the Convention some nonsense the Doctor then proceeded to the more serious side of his subject, "Some Cents," as the following sentences will attest.

It is most wonderful the spurt cents have taken since 1910. In that year Mr. Elder sold the Gilbert Collection of 1794 cents. This collection, with few exceptions, was a combination of the best pieces of the collections formed by W. W. Hays and Henry Phelps. This combination was made by Mr. Chas. Steigerwalt, who purchased both collections. He also made some improvements in the combined collection before he sold it to Mr. Chas. Zug of Pittsburgh, who also improved it. In 1907 Mr. Law of New York sold the Zug Collection at public auction and nearly every piece was bought by Mr. E. Gilbert, who in turn had Mr. Elder sell them on October 12, 1910. It was this auction that started cents going up the ladder. I attended that auction in person and I succeeded in purchasing but two pieces. Believe me, the gentleman with the cognomen of Klondyke paid much more than expected for his 1794 cents. The 1794 cents brought $522.30 in the Zug sale and about $1700 in the Gilbert sale. All the 1794 cents in that sale but two were bought by Mr. Klondyke. This collection was again sold in May, 1915, by the U. S. Coin Co., under the name of a prominent American, when they brought over $2000. Much more good judgment was used at the U. S. Sale, as it represented real values. The rare pieces in an unusual state of preservation brought apparently high prices, but they were cheap considering their rarity.

Rare specimens, not only of the 1794's, but of all the cents will continue to soar. The supply is so limited and the demand so great, and by some peoples who don't care how they let go of their money, and this country is getting more populous and richer, and the rich ones will have to have their hobbies and naturally some will turn to collecting coins, and alas for poor Richard and me! I have selected a few cents to show you how prices have increased at public sales.

Telegrams and letters of regret, good wishes and greetings came from the following members during the Convention: President H. O. Granberg, Carl Wurtzbach, A. A. Leve, J. de Lagerberg, H. R. Newcomb, Bauman L. Belden.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Wednesday's session, the fourth and final "Call to Arms," was presided over by Ex-President Brenner.

The matter of the needed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws was again taken up and threshed out to a finish.

Various committees appointed earlier in the Convention made their reports.

The Convention as a whole expressed itself favorably towards holding 1917 annual affair in Rochester, N. Y.

Mr. A. A. Leve, who was unable to be present, favored the Convention with a well prepared and an appreciative paper, his subject, "Some Paper Money I have Met," being well chosen. Following are a few of the interesting points gleaned from this reading.

From the earliest Chinese note down to the latest wrinkle in Mexican paper, there is not one single issue of any country that is not rich in possibilities for the live collector. I always hold that our own U. S. notes are the finest examples of the engravers' art.

The low numbers of many U. S. issues seem to have been coveted even in the early days.

I have often thought were I a coin dealer, I would buy space in the city directory and telephone book and run this copy without change: "The Columbian half-dollar is worth about face. Get rid of your Buffalo nickels quickly, they are only worth two and three cents. What is a nickel worth without the cents on? Why, it's worth saving. Those shinplasters you carried in your pocket since the war? Why, redeem them before the germs eat 'em up. What is a white penny worth? Just one-half the value of a two-cent piece." In all my experience I never had a rare note handed me in ordinary channels of business.

Paper money brings us close to great events. There are many issues of "Bills that have died in Battle." They are fields of study in themselves.

Mr. Bauman L. Belden was on for "War Decorations," but at the last moment was detained in New York and therefore the pleasure of hearing Mr. Belden's paper was denied the Convention.

Mr. Moore favored the Convention a second time with a very interesting subject entitled "Say and Hearsay." This was a pleasing discourse on an early horse-car metallic issue belonging to the city of Dayton. The coin-ticket was treated as being perhaps an humorous coinage. The following general description of this street-car check was given by the author of the paper. Metallic Fare Checks—relics of a bygone century—of an humorous nature, portraying the animal-power car in either ascending or descending positions, were coined supposedly for service on the Southern extension of the Dayton City Car Line. According to the best authorities, there were two varieties of these pay-in tickets, both of which are herewith fully illustrated. These metallic cards appear with plain edges and were struck in yellow brass the size and thickness of a silver twenty-five-cent piece. These railroad tokens have only recently come to the notice of collectors, and so far as known mention of the same has never before appeared in print.

On motion the Convention voted to adjourn, sine die.

CONVENTION ATTENDANCE.

Judson Brenner,
Alex M. Hanline,
Evenezer Beesley,
W. H. Amberg,
R. W. McLachlan,
Charles Markus,
Harrold E. Gillingham,
F. G. Duffield,
C. E. Walters,
Wayte Raymond,
Geo. J. Bauer,
Aaron Du Bois,
H. Keighly-Peach,
E. H. Adams,
Harry F. Williams,
Dr. Geo. P. French,
Dr. J. M. Henderson,
Mrs. J. M. Henderson,
Howland Wood,
J. P. Hale Jenkins,
M. Marcuson,
Elmer S. Sears,
Geo. C. Arnold,
John E. Morse,
Henry Chapman,
H. H. Yawger,
Fred B. King,
Rud. Kohler,
Fred E. Merritt,
S. Hudson Chapman,
Dr. Edw. Plummer,
L. J. Woolsey,
Robert Bird,
B. H. Collins,
Fred Joy,
T. E. Leon,
Waldo Newcomer,
Waldo C. Moore.

CONVENTION COINAGE.

Among the pre-Convention Ohio arrivals were Dr. and Mrs. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. A. DuBois, Chairman Brenner and the General Secretary. Messrs. Adams, Raymond and Amberg were the early arrivals from New York State. McLachlan from Montreal was Charley-on-the-spot.

The joy of Convention days always lies in the release from responsibility. This is a weight that lies heavily on many and is borne lightly, yet adequately, by the happy few.

The precious interval so eagerly anticipated and which Conventioners thought would never come until endurance had reached the limit, is wiped from the calendar and becomes but the memories of joys that are past.

The Convention days were full of hours. The joy of nothing to do became an occupation which absorbed Time like a sponge.

Baltimore vies with Philadelphia as being a city of homes, each family, as a rule, having a house of its own.

The Peabody Institute, founded by George Peabody in 1857, is accounted one of the higher educational institutions of America.

Fellows in attendance at the Convention had the pleasure of both meeting many new faces and greeting many of the "Old Guard."

A most absorbing interest was manifest by the annual A. N. A. attendants in the famous and magnificent Peabody Institute, an acknowledged center of art and science.

Overheard at the big Coin Show: "The other fellow's fad is always foolish."

Dr. and Mrs. Henderson autoed the way from Ohio's capital to enjoy the Baltimore Convention. A most promising young attorney of the Capital City, by name Du Bois, and a good fellow of the craft, accompanied the Columbus tourists. Convention noise: As legal advisor Mr. Du Bois saved the Doctor any hold-ups because of speeding.

On August 9, the Moores of the Biggest Little town on the Great National Road in Ohio autoed to Columbus and the following day E. Vernon, together with Dr. Henderson aand Attorney Du Bois, audited the accounts of the Treasurer and General Secretary.

Quaker quip: No, Henry, there is no similarity between an heirloom and a windmill. Phila.

The coins exhibited by the members of the A. N. A. at the Institute undoubtedly was one of the best ever shown at any Convention and aroused much interest on the part of the general public, and at the same time afforded the collectors in attendance an opportunity to see many of the great rarities.

In conversation: "Speaking of the Counterfeiter, goods can't be any better than the character of the men who make them."

Dr. French of Rochester was early on the grounds with his usually unique and rare "new-mismatic" stories.

Some soda fountains are serving pretzels these days with every glass of wetness.

It is reported that our New York friend became so interested in the Convention's pretty stenographer that he forgot to cast his ballot for A. N. A. officers.

The side trips were started by Raymond, Williams and Wood by a little jaunt to Annapolis on Saturday P. M. Such glowing accounts were brought back that each afternoon some of the members made the excursion to the historic capital of Maryland and took in the old buildings and the Naval Academy on the banks of the Severn. The tomb of John Paul Jones in the crypt under the Chapel on the grounds impressed all who saw it.

On Sunday six made the trip to Gettysburg battle ground by automobile and brushed up their knowledge of the famous battle and understood and appreciated by personal inspection what text books and history could never tell so adequately. As the trip took all day, no other attempt was made by anyone else to make this jaunt. The fortunate ones were Joy, Wood, Bird, Beesley, Marcus and Raymond. As Joy organized the party, it was known as the "Joy ride."

As the racing season was on at Havre de Grace, several went down on Monday afternoon. Details are lacking as to just what happened, but as it was noticed that one of the party paid for all of the dinner that evening, it may be supposed that somebody won all of the money.

A large number wound up the Convention by continuing on to Washington.

The Post-Convention Elder coin sales led a good quota of the A. N. A. delegates to New York City. Several noted collectors from a distance attended the sales.

Spicy papers on timely subjects, written in masterly fashion, were appreciated by those of the Association who were privileged to attend the conclave. The interests that grow out of such a meeting should bind the fraternity with new srength to the old duties.

Mr. Askit—"And how do you like reporting a Convention?"

Reporter Moore—"Oh, it keeps me so busy writing about what I have been seeing and hearing that I do not have any time to do anything to write about." Baltimore.

From the growing interest manifested by visitors at the Convention each year, it is inferred that the public is becoming more and more appreciative of

the effort of the numismatic curious and that the ancient attitude toward collecting as "boy's play" is rapidly disappearing over the horizon.

Part of the joy of being away is centered in getting home and taking up old duties with a revival of interest.

Main Street,

Cross Street,

any old place you go—you'll find collectors the same in the things they do, in Baltimore, New York or Kalamazoo.

A. C. ZABRISKIE DIES

Ex-President of American Numismatic and Archaeological Society Was Known for His Charities.

Andrew C. Zabriskie of 34 West Fifty-third Street, President for ten years of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society, and known for his charities, died Sept. 15th at his country home, Blithewood, at Barrytown-on-Hudson, N. Y., in his sixty-fourth year. He was a member of one of this country's oldest families, being descended from Albrecht Zaborowsky, who came here on the ship Fox in 1662.

Mr. Zabriskie was born here and was a son of the late Christian A. Zabriskie and Mrs. Sarah J. Titus Zabriskie. He was educated in private schools and was a graduate of the School of Mines of Columbia University. In 1873 he entered the Seventh Regiment, N. Y. N. G., subsequently serving as Inspector of Rifle Practice for the Seventy-first, in which he was Captain of Company C, and from which he resigned in 1897. Mr. Zabriskie was active in politics in Dutchess County, a member of the Democratic State Executive Committee, and Chairman of the Dutchess County Board of Supervisors.

All his life Mr. Zabriskie was a collector of coins and medals, and owned one of the best collections in this country, in which are many rare Lincoln medals and many rare Polish coins and medals. His collection of books and prints relating to the early history of New York is also notable.

He was one of the largest real estate owners of New York City and spent his time taking care of his estate, making his offices at 52 Beaver Street, in the building erected more than seventy years ago by his grandfather, William M. Titus, on land once owned by his great-grandfather, Thomas Gardner.

Mr. Zabriskie married Miss Frances Hunter, daughter of Charles F. Hunter, President of the People's Bank for many years, in 1895. They had two children, Miss Julis Romeyn Zabriskie and Christian Andrew Zabriskie.

AN IMPORTANT "NEW ISSUE"

While collectors have been anxiously waiting for the new issues of silver coins, a "New Issue" of great importance—to Mr. and Mrs. B. Max Mehl—arrived on October 4th—a bright nine-pound female numismatist.

New Designs Trouble Mint

Cannot Make Satisfactory Dies for Dimes, Quarters and Half Dollars.

Philadelphia, Sept. 15.—The United States Mint here is having trouble in making satisfactory dies for the new dimes, quarters, and half dollars from the designs furnished by the Treasury Department, and there is delay in getting the new currency into circulation. The Treasury authorities hoped to have the new silver money in circulation July 1.

According to Dr. Albert A. Norris, chief clerk of the Philadelphia mint, the die makers usually have trouble when designs are made by artists who are not familiar with the mechanical problems.

At present the mint is working nights manufacturing silver coin of the old design to keep up with the demand.

As to Cleopatra's Beauty

For nearly nineteen centuries the world has labored under the belief that Egypt's queen, the famous daughter of Ptolemy Auletes, was one of the loveliest of women. Poets have sung of her, artists have pictured her, writers have searched their souls to give expression to their thoughts of her. And now a lot of ungallant old duffers get up and tell us we are all wrong. The iconoclasts are members of the American Numismatic Association. In convention at Baltimore they declared she was ugly and they said they could prove her ugliness with coins bearing Cleo's portraits—portraits which the queen herself ordered and approved. They argue that, being a woman, she certainly would not have approved the portraits unless they were good likenesses. And these portraits show Cleopatra with irregular features, big ears, small eyes and a scrawny neck.

As a further demonstration of the practical value of numismatics, Mr. Brenner, chairman of the board of governors, tells of Mary Garden and the Salome dance

"When Mary Garden wanted to dance just as did Salome," he said, "she ran to a numismatist as fast as she could go and asked for some of his old coins. From these coins she got the poses for her famous dance."

If Mr. Brenner and his fellow faddists brought forward all the metal tokens that have come down the ages they could not make their indictment stick. The proof, the strongest proof that can be furnished to the world, is against them.

Cleopatra ugly? Cleopatra a creature with big ears and small eyes? Cleopatra a wench with a scrawny neck?

Impossible.

For all the love he had for Cleopatra the great Caesar looked with admiring eyes upon the charms of other women. Caesar knew many beautiful women of many lands, but for none did he go to such extremes of folly as for the Lady of the Nile. He neglected war, affairs of state, everything, in his madness for her.

Rome had many women of amazing charm of face and form. Had Cleopatra been the scarecrow the numismatists would have us think, the city by

the Tiber's shore would have ridiculed her and Caesar when she followed him to Rome and dazzled the imperial city with her splendor.

And what of Antony?

Shakespeare makes her say:

"Did I, * * * ever love Caesar so?
* * * By Isis, I will give thee bloody teeth,
If thou with Caesar paragon again
My man of men."

Charmian—"But your most gracious pardon,
I sing but after you."

Cleopatra—"My salad days,
When I was green in judgment: cold blood.
* * * He shall have every day a several greeting,
Or I'll unpeople Egypt."

If numismatists were ordinary human beings and not musty old, self-centered creatures they would know that ladies with big ears, small eyes and scrawny necks have no salad days.

Cleopatra ugly! The woman ugly of whom Enobarbus said:

"Age cannot wither her, no custom stale
Her infinite variety!"

Ridiculous.

—Commerce and Finance.

Famine in Small Coins on Pacific Coast

There is a famine of dimes all over the Pacific Coast. San Francisco bankers are reluctant to let any out. The sub-treasury has only a few left; the mint is out. And there is no relief in sight.

The situation as to half dollars is pretty nearly as bad. There are plenty of "two-bit" pieces. Only with these is the Government well supplied to meet the constant call for coins.

No dimes have been coined in San Francisco since March, 1915. No small silver coins of any denomination have been made this year. Unless some new dies come from the Philadelphia mint soon there will be no 1916 small silver coinage at all.

J. K. Lynch of the First National telegraphed to Senator Phelan asking that the dime embargo be raised. He was told that it would be possible to get 1915 dimes from the Philadelphia mint, if he would pay the shipping charges.

The present inconvenience is due to the change which has been made in the design of the coins. The design can be changed only once in twenty-five years. This year brought one of the twenty-five-year periods to a close and the change was ordered. The mints have not been equipped for making the coins.

—San Francisco Examiner.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday Evening, Sept. 19, 1916.

The 107th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order by President F. B. King. Members present: Messrs. Horner, W. H. Amberg, Plumb, Simmons, Savage, Potter, Bauer, Woolsey, Bostwick, Koeb, Stanley, Maunovry, W. H. Amberg, Lozier, King, Yawger, French.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. King made a few remarks regarding the clam bake given in honor of Mr. Fred E. Merritt, telling how much he had enjoyed the occasion, and when he spoke of the presentation of the medal to Mr. Merritt on that day, it made everybody realize how much they were losing in having Mr. Merritt leave the Association, and all were feeling rather downhearted, until Mr. Andrew Ludolph told one of his funny stories, thus raising the spirits of the members to normal. Some other members spoke a few words of regret at the loss of Mr. Merritt from our midst.

The following applications for membership were received and referred to the Membership Committee for investigation, to be passed upon at our next meeting: Mr. Geo. A. Gillette, 1016 Wilder Bldg., recommended by Geo. P. French and W. H. Amberg; Mr. V. W. Raymond, 86 Kislingbury St., recommended by Geo. P. French and H. H. Yawger; Mr. Earl H. Potter, 147 Lenox St., recommended by J. Maunovry and H. H. Yawger.

President King appointed Mr. Woolsey to act on the Membership Committee in place of Mr. F. E. Merritt.

Dr. French showed several varieties of 1793 cents together with a few other dates, the property of Mr. F. R. Kimball, of Boston.

Mr. J. A. Woods of Hamilton, Ont., called on several of the members during the week, but was obliged to leave the city on Sunday, before the meeting, much to the regret of all who had met him, as it would have given them much pleasure to have him attend the meeting. All are hoping that he may be with us at a meeting at some time in the not far distant future.

It was arranged that a paper is to be prepared and read on some subject of interest to all, at each meeting hereafter. At the next meeting, Mr. J. A. Koeb will tell about die making and how the coins are made.

Mr. Bauer read a paper on Roman coins, telling about the Roman Aes, when they started, and about the different sizes and who they were coined by; also told about the Denarii silver coins of Rome. He has specimens of each kind he told about; he also described how the different families of Rome at one time had their own coinage, when this practice began and when it was stopped. His talk was most interesting, from beginning to end, and a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered him.

The matter of attending the A. N. A. Convention was taken up and while there will not be as large an attendance from Rochester as was anticipated, still the R. N. A. will be pretty well represented.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, October 3rd.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

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FORT WORTH, TEXAS

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An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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NOVEMBER 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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With The Editor

The selection of Rochester as the Convention City for 1917 is sufficient guarantee that the Convention will be a success. Baltimore has established a record in this respect and one that will require some hustling work to equal. Baltimore was handicapped by not having a local society—but Mr. Duffield is a host in himself, and did much for the Convention's success. The most serious handicap, however, was the Convention was held a month too late. August is the proper month for it, and we look forward to an August Convention in 1917. Rochester's selection should ensure a greater attendance of Canadian members. Canada's representation at Baltimore was all right as far as the quality was concerned. The quantity, however, might easily have been greater. This drawback will doubtless be remedied at Rochester. There are sufficient members in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec to form a good delegation, and we look forward to seeing such there next August.

The Annual Report of the General Secretary, for the year ending July 31, contains one very unsatisfactory feature. Sixty-three members dropped out through non-payment of dues. These may not have been real collectors, they could not have been—or they would not set so great value on the trifling sum of two dollars. Still two dollars is a large sum of money to some people, and would materially increase their bank account—indeed it might even double it.

An English correspondent writes complimenting us on the high standard of the "Monthly," but is inclined to be somewhat critical. He writes: "I turn to your notes 'With the Editor' in the August-September number and feel that if every bull was beef you have done your best to lower the price of the latter. On page 102, paragraph 3, you say: 'There are many members * * * who will be absent. Cannot some of these make an effort to attend?' With what result, pray? You say they will be absent, so what will happen?" What happened was this—thirty-eight members attended and four hundred and forty-four did not. Texas is a great cattle country—and bulls will stray. We however shall not increase our subscription rates on that account, even though they find their way into our pages at times.

A correspondent has read a short story, "A Coin Too Many," in the October number of the "Argosy." The interest centers in a silver "talent" of the Roman Emperor Maximinus, the only one known and of priceless value. Another coin mentioned is an ancient piece of Aztec money. He asks if the facts stated are correct. We should say that these two coins exist only in the realm of fiction. It is strange indeed—the coins struck and issued in that realm. Wilkie Collins in his "Woman in White" introduces Mr. Frederick Fairlie, one of the characters found there, as a numismatist—the proud possessor of "a copper coin of the period of Tiglath Pileser" (King of Assyria B. C. 747-729). Alas for Mr. Fairlie's reputation as a numismatist. The Assyrians had no coined money until at least two hundred years later.

There is a marble obelisk in the British Museum that illustrates a chapter in Assyrian history. It records the paying of tribute by the Israelite King Jehu, to Shalmaneser II, King of Assyria, B. C. 858-823. The obelisk is four-sided, about seven feet high, containing on each side five bas-reliefs and records in cuneiform writing. The bas-reliefs in one row represent Israelite envoys presenting tributes of gold and silver to the King. One envoy is carrying a tray or plate; on this are some circular objects which might represent coins—only we have no record of round coins at this period. Eight are carrying baskets, or bags having handles, with one hand—the other holding a sack thrown over the shoulder, while others are shown carrying the precious metals in bars. The accompanying inscription relates that this tribute was sent by Jehu, "son," i. e. successor, "of Krumri," or "Omri." This tribute was paid about B. C. 842.

What are the circular objects shown on the tray—and what did the hand-bags and sacks contain?

Did Wilkie Collins find in this obelisk a suggestion for Mr. Fairlie's "copper coin of the period of Tiglath Pileser"?

A correspondent asks several questions about the Jackson, or "Hard Times" Tokens—the references to "The Bank" and what they mean. The facts are known to most collectors, but our subscription list proves that the number of collectors is ever growing. No young collector need hesitate to ask our help. We are pleased at all times to do our best to answer any questions that show an intelligent interest in the study of coins and tokens.

The true "Hard Times" tokens are political, many of them having reference to the movement for and against the Bank of the United States. The first Bank was established mainly on the advice of Alexander Hamilton of New York, who was Secretary of the Treasury under President George Washington, in 1791. It continued in existence until 1811, when it failed to obtain a renewal of its charter. The second Bank of the United States was recommended by Alexander J. Dallas, then Secretary of the Treasury, in 1814, and was authorized and incorporated by Congress in 1816—and went into operation January 7, 1817. Its charter was to continue to March, 1836.

The Bank was brought into politics early in Jackson's first term. A semi-official request was made on it for an appointment that met with a refusal that was never forgiven. Jackson's attention was called to it by the party mana-

gers. The Bank's charter would expire in 1836. In his first message to Congress in 1830, he manifested towards the Bank that spirit of opposition which was a few years later to break into open hostility, and create in certain sections such a strong feeling against him.

The friends of the Bank, aware of the unfriendliness of Jackson and his advisers towards it, were vigilant and active. In 1832 a bill was introduced into Congress by Henry Clay providing for a renewal of the Bank's charter. The bill was passed. Jackson vetoed it. The Whigs made it a party question that year. They were beaten and Jackson was re-elected by an increased majority.

The chief point of Jackson's opposition to the renewal of the Bank's charter was that it was an oppressive monopoly. This objection had great weight with the people—monopolies are seldom popular. He also urged the general unsafeness of the Bank; its improper conduct in postponing the redemption of the government's three per-cents, thus delaying the liquidation of the public debt; and its exaction of damages ($170,041) for dishonor of the government's draft on France for four millions of francs—being the first installment due under a recent treaty with the French. The Bank had from the first been the depositary of a large amount of government funds. Jackson not being able to obtain a majority of the Senate in his favor, took advantage of a provision in the Bank's charter and directed the Secretary of the Treasury to deposit all its funds elsewhere. This was done and the Bank, thus deprived of its great source of income, became a State institution, being chartered by the Legislature of Pennsylvania after 1836. Bankruptcy followed early in 1840. Nothing remained for the stockholders. The entire capital had been spent, and widespread distress was the result.

A new use has been found in Canada for our nickels. The cavalry wear heavy spurs with sharp pointed rowels. The musical sound of jingling spurs is dear to the young soldier's heart—but the weight and rowels have been found inconvenient and destructive for dress purposes. For these, lighter spurs have been made—and in place of the destructive rowels the peaceful American nickel has been substituted. The change has greatly pleased the ladies. The jingle is the same—some maintain it is even of richer tone. The question arises—can the use of our nickels for such purposes be held to be a breach of American neutrality?

ROMAN COINS LONG HIDDEN

Discovery of Roman coins has just been made by a workman at Balgreggan Quarry, in the parish of Stoneykirk, Scotland. While the quarrymen were removing soil from the top of the rock they came upon a large number of coins about a foot from the surface. On a further search being made, over a hundred bronze coins were found, some of them in excellent preservation. They represent the reigns of five or six Roman emperors and empresses, and the portraits and figures of men in various attitudes of the chase and war are in many cases remarkably distinct. Part of an urn of baked clay was also found with the coins. It is ribbed on the inside, and probably contained the ashes of ancient warriors, as well as being a repository for the coins.

COINS SHOWING THE WILD MAN

An Address Delivered Before the New York Numismatic Club

By MORITZ WORMSER.

Toward the end of June of this year, there was dispersed by auction in Philadelphia, the collection of our late fellow-member, Mr. Charles Gregory, which was very representative as a general collection, showing the universal numismatic taste of its owner. He seems to have been especially attracted by the Brunswick series of wild man coins. These coins are certainly distinguished by the grotesque effigy of the wild man which they carry, and have always apparently been very popular among American collectors of foreign coins. The subject of this talk was suggested to me in a very off-hand manner and after deciding to talk on it, I concluded that it was a very poor choice for a subject of such vast extent, the series of Brunswick coins alone on this subject being particularly prolific. I trust no one will expect a scholarly talk or an attempt to contribute to numismatic science, as my remarks are only intended to arouse a general interest in the subject, and to group together information already available. The exhibit which I have with me this evening is very limited, and I am confident that some of you here have brought a richer series of wild man coins than I own. I should not be surprised if most of you thought that I was only going to refer to the wild man coins of Brunswick, but it is to be noted that I shall talk not only on those, but also on other coins on which the wild man appears in different forms and shapes.

But who is this wild man, not of Borneo, but of Germany? He is a creation of German and Slav folk legends, a descendant of the Greek Satyr and the Roman Faun, the spirit of the German forest which the German loves, a descendant also of the race of giants, Fafner and Fasolt, who helped the German Gods build Walhalla in the Rheingold Saga; huge of stature, hairy of skin, wreathed in the leaves of the forest and formidably armed with a cudgel or a tree-trunk. From the legend he has been transferred to heraldry and in that capacity he appears as a shield supporter, sometimes alone, at other times in pairs, in some cases accompanied by the wild woman; sometimes unarmed, at others holding a lance or a club; and in a few cases his head hidden in the helmet covering the coat of arms as a particular fancy of the heraldic artist.

The first series of wild man coins which we shall briefly consider is that of the lands of Brunswick, and this is so numerous that it will only be most superficial. For those who wish to go more deeply into the subject, we would suggest the reading of the well-known and authoritative word of Edward Fiala, who described the coin collection of the lands of the Guelphs belonging to Ernest Augustus, Duke of Cumberland and Duke of Brunswick Luneburg, or rather to be more exact, the father of the present reigning Duke. This collection has a very interesting history, having originally belonged to Gerhardt Walter Molanus, Abbott of Loccum, who died in 1722. From him it descended to the councilor and general superintendent Böhmer, of Celle, whose heirs in 1744, wanted to sell it at auction, but first offered it to King George II, who exercised the option, purchased it and with it laid the foundation of the royal coin cabinet. Fiala's work is standard on this subject. This

work is available at the New York Public Library. Another standard collection is that of Knyphausen, the catalogue of which Mr. Frey was kind enough to put at my disposal.

In connection with any Brunswick coins, the number of branch lines of the House of Guelph is most confusing, and I must confess that after having spent some time on this paper, I am still unable to give you a very clear history of all the branch lines who issued coins. Briefly the principal and steadily ruling lines are the Middle Brunswick Wolffenbüttel line, the New Brunswick Wolffenbüttel line, and the Brunswick Luneburg line. The first mentioned died out with Frederick Ulrich in 1634, and its possessions were divided between the lines of New Wolffenbüttel and Luneburg. The former of these two is the older line, and has always remained the Duchy of Brunswick. The descent of its rulers was several times interrupted through death without direct male heirs, and finally in 1884 the last ruler of the line died without any descendants. This produced a complication in the Guelph question in Germany, as the Duchy should have descended to the prusso-phobe dethroned Duke of Cumberland, who but for the annexation of Hanover by Prussia in 1866 should have inherited the Kingdom of Hanover. The question was adjusted only just preceding the present war, by the marriage of the son of the Duke of Cumberland to the daughter of Emperor William II, who thereupon ascended the throne of the Duchy of Brunswick,—modern history which is fresh in everyone's mind.

But to return to the subject of our talk, the "Wild Man." Coins with this effigy are frequent with the coinage of almost all the branch lines of the House of Brunswick, and in the case of these coins the wild man does not only represent the spirit of the forest, but more specifically the spirit of the Harz Mountains. These mountains are located in the land of Brunswick and are very rich in mines. Mining there began in the middle ages, but the only one operated before 1500 was that of the Rammelsberg near Goslar. In 1524 Bohemian miners opened up the Andreasburg mine which then, however, belonged to the domains of Hohenstein. Not until 1593 did Wolgart of Brunswick-Grubenhagen inherit the mining town of St. Andreasberg as a part of his heritage of Hohenstein, after the extinction of this noble line, and three years later Duke Henry Julius of Middle Brunswick Wolffenbüttel in turn fell heir to this precious possession by inheriting the lands of Grubenhagen through the extinction of this branch line. This produced the first Andreas Thaler in 1594, and it may be noted in passing that St. Andrew reigned a close second to the wild man on the Brunswick coins. In that same year, 1524, Wolf Sturz, former mine boss of St. Joachims Thal, was called to the upper Harz by Henry the Younger with the permission of Count Stephan of Schlick, and in 1529 the Wildemann mine located near the town of this name began to produce. This mine was the first silver mine of the Dukes of Brunswick and undoubtedly is responsible for the appearance of all the Brunswick silver coins of its namesake, the Wild Man, who was later also transferred to the gold and copper productions, although he symbolizes only the mining of silver. Other mines were opened up from time to time, and in the eighteenth century we have consequently a very large series of mining Thalers on which are representations and pictures of these various mines. Some of the Harz mines are very deep, and often it was necessary to cease mining owing to the

appearance of ground waters. One of the Andreasberg shafts is 850 meters deep, its bottom being 220 meters below sea level.

In connection with these Harz mines, it is interesting to know that a great number of them belonged to the various branch lines of Brunswick jointly, being comprised in the expression "Kommunion Harz." The upper Harz belonged to the line of Grubenhagen, and was exclusively Brunswick Lüneberg property, but the four mining towns of Zellerfelt, Wildemann, Goslar and Lautenthal as well as Rammelsberg were the common property of Wolffenbüttel and Lüneberg. It was only in 1788 that the so-called "Recess" was concluded, by which Wolffenbüttel gave up its rights in the "Kommunion of Upper Harz" against three-sevenths of the forest rights.

The coinage of wild man coins of the House of Middle Wolffenbüttel is the most interesting, and a consideration of this series might be called the "rise and fall of the wild man," for in the early series of these coins, the wild man is used pictorially to tell a real story in the coins, while in later years his picture becomes more or less conventional, finally ending as a mere supporter in a coat of arms.

The founder of the line of Middle Wolffenbüttel was Henry the Elder, who received the Lands of Wolffenbüttel in 1495 from his father, William the Younger, while the brother of Henry the Elder, Erich, received the Lands of Calenberg. Henry the Elder was succeeded in 1514 by his son, Henry the Younger, who is known popularly as the "Böse Heinz" or "Bad Harry." He was engaged in continuous quarrels with other rulers of his vicinity, especially the Bishop of Hildeshiem, Erich of Calenberg fighting on his side, and in the battle of Soltau Erich was taken prisoner and Henry the Younger badly defeated. The Emperor, however, favored the cause of Henry the Younger, and he was again restored to his domains. Later he was arrayed on the side of the Catholics and the Emperor against the Lutherans and the Lutheran Princes of even his own house, and he took a prominent part in the Holy League of Nürnberg against the Smalcaldian League. The Lutherans overran the lands of Brunswick, and Henry the Younger was compelled to flee. Again gathering an army, he was beaten in the Battle of Bockelom and taken prisoner, and only the complete defeat of the Smalcaldian League at the Battle of Mühlberg by the Emperor and the Holy League freed Henry the Younger, and restored him to his domains. In this period the first wild man Thaler was struck, about the year 1539. During these years, the wild man appears alone, or as single shield supporter. In 1552, Henry had a falling out with his uncle Erich of Calenberg, but a few years later in 1555 they again became friendly and to commemorate this struck the so-called Kommunion Thaler and lower denominations, showing the heads of the two rulers on the obverse and the wild man supporting the coat of arms on the reverse and the device "in God's power have we put ourselves." This Thaler is in my exhibit. Other coins of Henry have the device "In Gott's Gewalt Hab Ich's gestalt. Der hat's gefügt was mir genügt" ("In God's power I have put myself. He has ordered what suffices me.") In fact these mottoes on these coins are very quaint and amusing, considering the rascality of some of their professors.

Henry the Younger has received a very bad reputation by reason of his relentless persecution of the Protestants, in which he went so far as to persecute his own son Julius to such an extent that he had to flee from his father

into the protection of the Duke of Brandenburg, as he was a devout supporter of the Protestant faith. At the same time Henry did a great deal of constructive work, especially improving mining in the Harz Mountains, opening new mines, and revising the mining laws.

Upon his death he was succeeded by his son Julius, who introduced the Reformation and who throughout his reign from 1570-1589 created the Golden Age of the lands of Brunswick. He established the University of Helmstadt and proved himself a great mining engineer, an efficient secretary of the interior, a splendid manufacturer and merchant. He established among other things a brass foundry, an iron industry and a munitions plant. His motto was "By serving others, I am consumed," and this is embodied in the well-known "licht" or "candle Thaler" in which the wild man appears holding a candle, showing how the Duke is devoting his life to the welfare of his subjects. ("Aliis in Serviendo Consumor.") A specimen of this is shown here this evening.

Numismatically, Duke Julius is also famous on account of the "Julius Loeser" first issued in 1574. This is the series of multiple Thalers, pieces of 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10, and in one year, 1688, even 16 Thalers, devised by him as a clever method of finance. They would come in the class of wild man coins, as they show in the center field of the reverse the coat of arms supported by a wild man holding a candle on the right and another one holding an orb on the left. The standard weight of the 10 Thaler is one pound silver. They showed several concentric circles of inscriptions, also the planets, symbolic of the various metals and the portrait of the Duke. They were struck at Heinrichstadt. Every subject was required to lay by one of these multiple thalers as a savings fund, in accordance with his state of wealth. The subjects obtained them by exchanging their small change for these thalers, and were required at

frequent periods to show them to the authorities. If the Duke at any time should find himself in need of precious metallic treasure for purposes of war or other reasons of state, he could turn to his subjects and borrow these reserve funds, thus redeeming them, the German word being "loesen." Hence the name "Loeser." Julius, however, ruled the country so well, that he never was compelled to call on his subjects for this purpose, but undoubtedly the unwieldy shape of these coins and the difficulty of negotiating or carrying them induced the good people of Brunswick to save money. As coins they were in demand for many years, an historian of 1722 recording that coin collectors paid from 40 to 50 thalers for one of these 10 Thaler pieces. The recent record of the 5 Thaler piece was $60.00.

Duke Julius was also engaged in considerable quarrels with the noble family of Von Saldern and the City of Brunswick, whose citizens had kept his son Henry Julius for hours in front of their gates during a cloud burst, merely out of spite against the Ducal family; and upon this occasion light and eyeglasses were supposed to fail them. In commemoration on the 14th of June, 1586, at Goslar and Wolffenbüttel, Julius struck the famous "Brillen" or "eyeglass thaler," on which the wild man is represented holding hour glass, skull and eyeglasses in addition to the candle. A specimen of the rather rare one and a half Brillen Thaler I am showing this evening. The abbreviations are intricate and interesting, being translated as follows: "What help are candle and eyeglasses to the eyes when a man cannot help or know himself," and "invited to bite why should I be bitten."

Finally the death of Julius in 1589 was commemorated in the issue of another Wild Man Thaler, on which the wild man is mournfully resting his head on his arm, supported by a memorial tablet, upon which is placed a skull, while in his left he holds a tree trunk, hour glass and eyeglasses, the very last of the Candle Thalers. The obverse shows for the last time the bust of Duke Julius dressed in heavy armor, his battle axe over his shoulder, and the coin shows the universal sentiment over the death of the beloved ruler "LUCTU PUBLICO," "with the lamentation of the populace."

Julius was succeeded by his son Henry Julius, who expanded his domains, but was extravagant and gradually brought the state into financial difficulties. Numismatically he is famed for a series of satirical thalers directed against his enemies, some of which were in accordance with the spirit of the time somewhat coarse in their humor, and which actually got the duke quite successfully before the Courts of the Empire. The nobles who had been the objects of the Brillenthalers, the brothers Kurt and Hildebrand von Saldern, had taken their troubles to the Courts, but in 1595 the decision was against them and they were condemned. Their complaint had also been joined in by other nobles, von Walmoden, Stücklein, Oldershausen and Steinberg, and in memory of the court vindication the duke at Goslar struck the so-called "Rebellan" or "Rebel" thaler, specimens of which I am showing. They show the wild man, in the R having a torch, in the L a spear; at his feet, a dog licking the point of the spear. Behind the dog a growing flower, with one blossom. Above the torch "N M T" "Noli me tangere," near the spear D. C. S. C. Durum contra stimulum calcitrare. Reverse, Circle of shields and representations of rebellious cohorts of Korah, Dathan and Abiram, swallowed by the earth. Above, N. R. M. A. D. I. E. S. Non recedent malum a domo

ingrati et seditiosi. ("Evil shall not leave the house of the ingrate and rebel.") Numeri XVI (Numbers Chapter XVI.)

This was followed in 1596 by the Lie Thaler, showing on the obverse a shield held by a wild man standing to the right, and on the reverse victory crowning a lion, resting on a flower, with the inscription "Huete dich for der That der Luegen wird wohl Radt" (Beware of lies is good advice), "Tandem Bona causa triumphat" (At last the cause of the righteous shall triumph).

Further wild man Thalers of this ruler are the Unity Thaler and the Pelican Thalers, both showing the same obverse, with the coat of arms supported by a wild man, and the reverse of the former showing a leopard and a lion upholding a bundle of arrows with the device "Unita Durant," the latter a pelican feeding its blood to a brood of young ones with the device "Pro aris et Focis."

Frederick Ulrich followed Henry Julius upon his death in 1613, and with him faded the glory of the Middle Wolffenbüttel line,—as well as the glory of the wild man. He becomes conventionalized and loses some of his impertinence and poetry, no longer being the conveyor of clever satire or symbolism. One of my coins is of Frederick Ulrich and shows the conventionalized type. At times he appears as shield supporter, single or double, or standing in the center of the field without shield, holding a tree trunk, usually in his right. No longer characteristic of only the silver coins, he also makes his appearance on gold and copper coins, on gold I believe the first time on a ducat of 1615, of Frederick Ulrich. This ruler proved himself a weakling, and vacillating in the struggles of the 30 years war. While the Lüneburg line sided with the Imperials, Frederick Ulrich was finally compelled to seek refuge with the Danes, and later joined an alliance with the Swedes, his lands suffering terrible hardship, and his capital Wolffenbüttel forming a Danish stronghold.

He died in 1634, without heirs, and in 1635, the princes of Brunswick concluded their peace among each other and with the Emperor at Prague, and as a consequence they also agreed upon the division of the lands of Middle Wolffenbüttel, August the Younger of Danenberg obtaining the land known by this name and this City, and with his descendants henceforth forming the New Wolfbüttel line. He will be remembered by us Numismatists as the ruler who struck the famous seven Bell thalers upon the evacuation of Wolffenbüttel by the Imperials in 1643, but as these are not wild man coins, we must treat this, as Kipling would say, "as another story."

Among the wild man thalers of this line, we might recall the fact that Rudolf August, the son of August the Younger, had no male heirs, and being very devoted to his brother, Anton Ulrich, made him his co-regent in 1685. Their busts appear on Thalers jointly, and the wild man of course has to join in the festivities of Brotherly Concord also by his appearance on one thaler as a couple, holding two interlaced tree trunks between them with the inscription "Ut frontibus ita frondibus conjunctissimi," "In close alliance in our minds just as in our mines." In connection with the house of New Lüneburg, and Celle which begins in 1535 we might keep in mind the year 1685, in which this house achieved the award of the electoral dignity at the hands of the Emperor, and the ascent of George Ludwig to the English throne as King George I in 1714. This of course produced a considerable heraldic change, in placing the English arms on the coins of Lüneburg, but still we find the wild man to per-

sist, sometimes within landscapes, sometimes in grotesque positions, at other times holding various pine trees with or without branches or leaves. I am showing such a thaler of George I of 1723, while on the New Wolffenbüttel pieces, we see two wild men degenerated into conventional shield supporters on the mining thaler of Charles I, 1752, of the mine "August Friedrich zu Bleyfield," and the other similar one of the mine "Weiser Schwan." Similarly he appears as single shield supporter on the ducat of Ludwig Rudolf of 1733.

In the nineteenth century the Hanoverian line has dropped the wild man entirely, but the Wolffenbüttel line is still faithful to tradition, as my two and one-half Thaler gold piece of Charles II of 1829 and X Thaler gold piece of Duke William, of 1834, still show him as shield supporter.

I started to tell you that while the Guelph coinage undoubtedly made the wild man coinage popular, we also find him represented on other coinages, chiefly by reason of his heraldically gracing the coat of arms as shield supporter. We are showing him here on two Thalers of Pommern, one struck by Duke Bogislaus XIV in 1631, and the second by Christina, Queen of Sweden, for Pommerania in 1641. Duke Bogislaus XIV was the last of his race and although at the beginning of the seventeenth century, ten Dukes of Pommerania were alive, at the time of his death in 1637, this princely line became extinct after uniting by heritage several branches and all the lands of Pom-

mern. He had not taken active part in the Thirty Years War, yet his country was devastated by the Imperials and he had to conclude an alliance with the Swedes, who after withstanding Wallenstein at the siege of Stralsund, in 1628 occupied all his lands. By a treatey of succession, dating from 1529, concluded at Grimnitz, Brandenburg was entitled to the succession, but in the Peace of Westphalia obtained only very minor lands, not obtaining the bulk of Pommerania until 1720 and 1814. Thus our two thalers show the transition of the rule over this country from an independent prince to the then powerful royal house of Sweden. In this connection we come across a very interesting numismatic parallel or imitation, showing the popularity of the Brunswick Wild Man type. We refer to a memorial thaler struck by Philip II of Pommerania upon the death of his brother George III, in 1617, which shows the Pommeranian Wild Man, with his right holding the Griffin shield and in his left a long cudgel, leaning against a memorial tablet on which are a skull and an hour glass,—surely an artistic theft of the idea of the similar death thaler of Duke Julius of Brunswick above described. (This Thaler is illustrated in

the catalogue of the A. Freyburg collection, No. 106, sold by A. Hess Nachf, on June 6, 1910).

Close to the wild men of Pommerania we must consider those of Brandenburg Prussia, in whose coat of arms they appear as shield supporters and on whose coinage they are found about 1650 or 1660. Would it be possible to conclude that although Brandenburg could not acquire the land of Pommerania to which it was rightfully entitled, it at least laid claim to and adopted its heraldic decorations? We are showing here the Prussian Wild Man alone in this case on the Albertus Thaler of Frederick Wilhelm, a very graceful and fairly rare creation. It may be interesting to know the significance of the Albertus Thaler, it being a thaler of a certain standard of weight and fineness, struck for the trade with Russia and the Baltic Provinces.

Under Prussian sovereignty we also find the principality of Neufchatel, and to it undoubtedly the Prussian Wild Men have been transferred as shown on the coat of arms of the twenty-one Batzen piece which we have here. Probably few of you know the history, or even the fact, of the ownership of this piece of Swiss soil by Prussia for a period in excess of a century, and a moment may be spent on a brief summary of this story.

Neufchatel had been an independent county in alliance with the Swiss since 1512. In the Peace of Westphalia it was recognized as a sovereign principality under Swiss Protectorate ruled by the House of Longueville. Upon its extinction, a large number, fifteen, pretenders appeared; among them William II of Orange claiming ancient rights of suzerainty, which subsequently he transferred to King Frederick I of Prussia as the son of Princess Louise of Orange. The estates of Neufchatel in 1707 recognized the claims of Prussia, preferring not to come under French dominion; and the King of Prussia gave guarantees as to the continuation of the separate and independent existence of Neufchatel in close alliance with Switzerland. This state of affairs continued excepting for the interval from 1806 to 1814, when Napoleon had awarded the principality to his Marshal Berthier, who, however, had never personally visted it.

After the Peace of Paris in 1814, we have the anomaly of seeing Neufchatel as a separate and independent state ruled by the King of Prussia and at the same time a canton of the Swiss federation. Several attempts and revolutions were made to bring about a separation from Prussia, which, however, did not finally succeed until 1848, and Prussian rights to the principality were not finally renounced until 1857.

It is rather late now to introduce to you any new "dramatis personae," but in order to complete a talk on the coins showing the wild man, it is necessary to show you some coins of Erfurt and Schwarzburg which in place of the wild man of the Harz show you the wild man and wild woman, whom on account of the close proximity of the location of these two issuing countries in the mountains and forests of Thüringen, I assume to be native to the style of this country in the same way as the wild man of a different character belongs strictly to the Harz. The coins here referred to show these interesting ladies and gentlemen in all their hairy beauty as supporters of the shield.

The two thalers of Erfurt show in the coat of arms of this city a wheel which is also shown generally on the coat of arms of the Archbishopric of Mainz, and undoubtedly this similarity is due to the pretensions which Mainz

has made to sovereignty over this city. It was founded by St. Boniface in the eighth century and incorporated in the diocese of Mainz, and the right of coinage was granted to it by Emperor Charles IV in 1352. In the beginning of the fifteenth century it was a thriving member of the Hansa at the zenith of its power, and a popular university, but at this time a conflict ensued between the elector of Saxony and the Archbishop of Mainz as to their sovereign rights over this city. In the Thirty Years War it opened its gates to the Swedes in 1631, and in 1640 the Swedish General Baner made his headquarters there. After the Peace of Westphalia it was decided that the city should subject itself to the Archbishop of Mainz, and upon its refusal to give up its independence it was declared outlawed. Aided by French troops, Archbishop Johann Philipp conquered the city in 1664 and put an end to the independence and free coinage of the City of Erfurt.

The Schwarzburg coins showing the wild man are the so-called Beggar Thaler of the joint house of Schwarzburg of 1605, so named after the effigy of St. Martin, who is seen dividing his cloak with a beggar. The second is a Thaler of Ludwig Gunther of the branch line of Schwarzburg Rudolstadt of 1786. Both of these show again the wild man and wild woman in rather graceful positions as shield supporters holding flags in place of the trees and clubs and cudgels which we have heretofore encountered.

To conclude our exhibit, we have a gold ducat and a medal of the city and canton of Luzern in Switzerland on which a somewhat different type of wild man is shown. They seem less grotesque, more artistic, less ferocious and of a gigantic stature, holding a palm leaf and a sword. More properly they should be considered giants rather than the protectors and dwellers of the forest. For according to the heraldic history of the supporters of the coat of arms of Luzern, originally a monk was used for this purpose to signify the sovereign rights of the Abbott of Murbach in upper Alsace over this city. These rights were surrendered by Abbott Berchtold of Falkenstein to Emperor Rudolph I, and then the city took two lions in place of the monk.

In the year 1577, however, at the small village of Reiden in the Canton a discovery of gigantic fossil bones of Mammalia was made, and with the superstition of the times, of course mistaken for the remains of giants, whose image was thereupon accepted as supporters of the coat of arms.

Gentlemen, I trust that by my rambling talk on these wild men, giants and other spirits I have caused you no nightmares, and your rest may not be disturbed.

Foreign Exchange

Before the war began $1,000 in American gold would purchase approximately 205 English pounds. Now $1,000 will buy 210 pounds. Before the war $1,000 of American gold equalled 4,332 German marks. Now that gold will bring you 5,865 marks.

Before the war $1,000 of American gold was equivalent to 5,254 French francs, but now it is equivalent to 5,834 francs. Before the war $1,000 of American gold would buy 1,945 Russian roubles, but today it would buy 3,150 roubles. Before the war $1,000 of our gold matched 5,254 Italian lire, but now you can purchase 6,451 lire for that same amount of American gold.

Of all the great European countries Austria's money has slumped the most. That $1,000 gold was once equal to 5,000 Austrian crowns, but now it is worth 8,335 crowns.

As you notice, England's money has suffered least and Austria's most.

Had you contracted a debt of $1.000 in Vienna before July, 1914, and payable in Austrian money, you could now cancel that debt for about $600 in American gold.

On the contrary, if a Viennese had contracted in 1914 a debt in Philadelphia of 5,000 crowns—the old-time equal of $1,000 American gold—it would require now 8,335 crowns to pay it.

That is what it means in a practical way to live with a depreciated currency. Our daddies knew all about it in the 60's, when at one time a gold dollar was worth almost as much as three paper dollars.

DIE SINKING AND DIE CUTTING

A DESCRIPTION HOW COINS AND MEDALS ARE MADE.

An Address Delivered Before the Rochester Numismatic Association

By J. A. KOEB.

Die sinking and die cutting are occupations which are very little known to the public. The making of medals is a part of the die-cutting business. I will try to describe to you to-night the construction of coins and medals from the earliest up to the present time.

From the time the first Greek medals were made, 700 B. C., to this day, there were three specified ways or methods of producing a medal. The first way was to cast the bronze in moulds to a medal. The second way was and still is at the present time, to use tools such as chisels, hammers, punches, files, gravers, to cut the steel,—all hand work. The modern or third way to produce a medal or coin is to make a model in clay after a sketch in the size of say 1 to 1½ feet in diameter, reducing this model with a pantograph reducing and engraving machine, to the size of a medal of about 2 to 3 inches in diameter. The old Greek coins are mostly cast bronze or silver pieces. Probably these people mastered the art of sculpturing before they knew that of engraving. For the purpose they carved each side of the medal separately out of hard wood, copper or stone; then they made of these models moulds in clay; afterwards these moulds were burned hard in ovens. They fastened both moulds together in a way to separate them after casting the coin and replacing it for the next one. Several hundred years after Christ these people made engraved coins. In a much improved way, the same method exists to-day, and I will explain to you the making of the dies for the medal or coin production.

Before the die cutter are two pieces of steel about 2—2½ inches in height, the same size, top and bottom perfectly smooth, the very finest product of the steel industry. He has also the approved design of the medal. On the design you may see circular lines. On the background there is supposed to be a slightly hollowed shape. This is done by a skilful machinist or toolmaker. The die cutter will start by transferring the design from the sketch onto gela-

tine and from that to the surface of the die or steel block. These steel dies are in a soft enough condition to be cut with hardened tools, with chisel and hammer, exactly as is done by a sculptor when he cuts out names and ornaments in stone. In cutting the medal into the steel block, the die cutter's work is reversed, that is, the fact of the portrait will look towards the right instead of the left, as shown on the portrait. All the high parts of the figure are cut the deepest into the die. To see the process of his work better, he uses a wood block with modeling wax on top of it, which he hammers every so often into the steel die, exactly reproducing the state of the work. After the general depth is chiseled out he proceeds to work up the details, and for this he has one hundred fine instruments, called punches, riffle files, scrapers, gravers, etc. This part of the work requires the greatest carefulness, as any little piece of steel he might cut out by mistake could not be replaced and the whole piece of work would have to be cut just so much deeper. The last work done on an engraved die is to polish out all the fine scratches and uneven parts, and is done with finest files and punches. All of the detail and finishing of the die is done most of the time with a strong magnifying glass on the eye and is rather nervous work.

In regard to the lettering on the obverse and reverse side of the coin or medal: Each of the letters or numerals are cut on a piece of bare steel, similar to the type used by printers, and then hardened. These letters are punched in the die with a hammer. Sometimes before, sometimes after the cutting of the two dies for reverse and obverse, they would be reduced in size, so the collar could be fitted on. This collar is removable and serves to retain the edge of the planchet when stamped. The collar may be made of one piece of steel or is split into three parts, and again is made to open or close automatically.

The next thing to do is to harden the die so it may resist the stamping of thousands of medals or coins. Specially built ovens, in which are started gas or charcoal fires and raised to a certain degree, are made to serve this purpose. The dies are put in steel or iron boxes filled with charcoal and put in the fire and the oven is closed. When the dies are a cherry red they are taken out with long tongs, getting a good grip on the red-hot die and plunging it suddenly into the cold water tank standing near the oven, constantly moving the die around in the water. A big stream of fresh cold water is constantly running through the filled tank to keep the water cool. It is a very trying moment for the die cutter, while he is watching for this hardening, as he may lose all the work of one or more weeks in a second of time. He cannot see the effect of the water on the die before it has completely cooled,—it may be cracked, or again, it may not be hard enough. If the steel is not hard enough it has to be put through the same process, all over again, and then there is twice as much danger of the die cracking. With a fine file the hardness of the steel is tested; it is good if the file doesn't touch. This is the second (or hand engraved) method of producing a die, and requires great skill on the part of the die cutter or medallist.

The third process is the machine-cut die. Sculptors of monuments study the modeling of medals and coins, also special medal modelers. They make a model 1 to 1½ feet in size, of clay; by electric copper bath or brass castings the clay model will be transferred into a solid metal placque. This placque is fastened to one end of the engraving machine, the steel die block being fastened to the other end. When the machine is working, the point will run

slowly in a circular or straight movement over the model; at the same time the drill will make the same movement over the die and cut out exactly the shape of the model in relief, or out of the depth. Most of the time the die cutter has to go over the machine work, as imperfections occur—remember our Buffalo nickel.

HUB—Another absolutely different style of die is the hub. If a great quantity of coins or medals are to be stamped, a hub is made and the design is cut on the steel hub in relief instead of being modeled in the depth of the steel. This means that the hub cutter cuts out all the metal around the figures and ornaments and leaves the modeled design. This is one of the oldest systems. When the hub is finished and hardened it is sunk by machine power into the die. The die is doomed before, for technical reasons. According to the height of the relief, the die may have to be annealed several times because the sinking of the hub would strain the steel too much and crack in hardening. The die cutter will save time, should the die break, if he will sink another die. (Annealing means making the die red hot in the fire, leaving it to cool slowly, which will make the steel soft again. Great care must be taken not to burn the carbon out of the steel.)

Next comes the stamping,—but before I explain the process of stamping or coining I wish to say a few words about the metal to be stamped. You know that coins and medals are made of gold, silver, bronze and nickel. These metals are cast to ingots or blocks; the metal blocks are rolled down, into sheets of varied thickness by passing them between highly polished powerful steam rollers, then cut into strips and the metal strips are again passed through the cutting press. The cutting dies in the press consist of a steel plate, hardened. A hole is pierced through the center of the steel plate the exact size of the coin to be made; into this circular hole is fitted the plunger, that is, a round piece of steel which fits into the hole so exactly that if you put a piece of paper over the hole the plunger would cut it like a scissors. Now the metal is passed over the cutter, the operator lifts a lever and cuts the metal strip into round pieces called planchets, a thousand of which can be cut in an hour. From the cutter the planchets are transferred to the tumbler. The tumbler is a barrel-like machine, into which a quantity of the planchets are placed, and the barrel or tumbler starts its rotary movement. This serves to take off the sharp edges of the planchets and to clear and polish the same, when they are ready for stamping.

In Switzerland, about 30 years ago I had an order from the state authorities to stamp up specimens from old dies preserved for distributing to several museums. I was somewhat at a loss how to start out, and went to the librarian to see if he knew how this die was worked, to get the desired result. You all know what an anvil is: In the anvil is a square hole. The bottom die had a point, as you see on the sketch. This point was stuck into the hole in the anvil, the rounded metal planchet was laid on top, another man holding the top die (probably with plyers) over the planchet, and still another struck the top die a hard blow with a sledge hammer. Is it surprising that we sometimes see old coins with their designs out of center? We know that back in 1600 medal engravers in Europe used the screw press, still in use to-day. (See print.) A frame, a big screw in the center guided by a slide right and left, fastened an iron bar over the top of the screw. On each end of the bar a big iron ball and a piece of leather is placed for the operator to take hold of. One

die was fastened to the screw block, the other to the base of the press, the whole on a solid foundation. The operator swung the ball with all his might, the die came down on the planchet, then wound itself up to the original position. After a time the medallists used water and other power to drive these presses. Another machine used in stamping coins and medals is the drop hammer. A 50 to 300-lb. or more block of steel (called hammer) slides in between two steel grooves, about 12 to 15 feet high. A leather strap, operated by a man and machine power, brings the hammer to the top; one die is attached to the hammer, the other to the base. The operator puts the planchet on the lower die, releases the trap and down comes the hammer, impressing the planchet into the cut die.

The last process in the stamping of coins and medals is the use of the coin press. I will not take up your time in explaining the coin press, but herewith submit a print of one. In making small coins or medals by the thousand, an automatic press feeder is attached to the press, which is a great labor saver. Such a press may be seen at the Philadelphia mint. Larger coins or special medals with high relief have to be handled and run through the press 7 to 15 times before the detail is perfect. Each time the medal is annealed and cleaned with an acid solution, water and sawdust. The press operator works with gloves on, and absolute cleanliness is necessary. Gold, silver and copper coins come finished out of the press. Each die will stand just so much pounding or stamping,—nobody knows how much. Some dies are good for 80,000 impressions, while some crack, sink or chip off with the fifth piece. No steel manufacturer will guarantee his steel, in fact at the present time, one may be glad to get steel at all.

During the entire process of coining there are minor operations to be gone through, to explain which would take up too much time.

ONE-CENT PIECE IMPORTANT IN MERCHANDISING

One cent will not buy much in this world and less in the United States than in many other places in the world, but it is about the most important coin in circulation. The penny is an essential cog in the system of merchandising which has been built up in this country. A study of the annual reports of the director of the United States mint shows that the record of the pennies coined furnishes an accurate index to the general state of trade throughout the country from year to year. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, the coinage of pennies for the first time in the history of the mint exceeded the amount of $1,000,000. The exact amount was $1,081,386.18.

The period covered by that report was the one in which the country enjoyed unusual commercial activity in conjunction with the phenomenal development of its railroads and industrial expansion. The culmination in the "rich men's panic," in the fall of 1907, was followed by the extreme depression in all lines of business, and the report of the director of the mint shows that only $334,429.87 in pennies was coined during the fiscal year ending June, 1908. Then times changed for the better, and for the year 1910 it was necessary to coin pennies to the sum of $1,528,426.18.

"The penny is a more important coin than is generally realized," said Geo. E. Roberts, one-time director of the mint. "It plays an intimate part in the transaction of nearly all the important business in life."

—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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6	1754 Papal Crown. Pope Benedict XIV	2.75
7	1624 Austria, Ferdinand II. Fine	1.75
8	1703 Bohemia. Leopold the Hog-mouth. Very large peruke	1.75
9	1642 Austria. Ferdinand III. View of the City of Augsburg with Pine Cone. Fine	2.00
10	1785 Belgium. Liberty. Rev. Arm. Federation Ducatom	2.10
11	1545 Brandenburg. Geo. and Albert. Busts facing. Dollar. Scarce	1.75
12	1559 Salsburg. Michael Count of Kuenburg. Saint seated on throne	1.60
13	1621 Austria, Ferd. II. Laureated bust in ruff and armor. Rev. elaborate shield of arms. Scarce	2.00
14	1597 Truth Dollar. Truth standing within circle of shells. Rare	2.45

ODD SHAPED SILVER COINS

15	1578 Amsterdam, 20 Sols. Siege coin struck while besieged by the States of Holland. Square. Rare	2.25
16	1642 Salsburg. Half Crown on SQUARE planchet. Fine and rare	1.75
17	1609 Ratisbon, 1/8 Dollar. SQUARE COIN	1.10
18	1621 Silesia, 3 Talero. SQUARE coin. Struck by Princes of the Reague. Rare	2.00
19	Curacao, (South Amer.) Occupied by the English, 1/5 Dollar cut from Spanish Dollar. Scarce	.35
20	1852 Maunday Set of Queen Victoria, 1½ to 4 pence. Scarce. The set	.85

SCARCE ODD COPPER COINS

21	Mayence. (Ulm) Gate tokens. 4 Kreutzen, SQUARE COIN. Rare	.50
22	Mayence, 1 Kreutzer. OVAL COIN. Rare	.50
23	Sweden, 1715-1719. Set of copper Baron de Goertz Dalers. Eleven, all different. The set	1.75
24	Lady Godiva or Coventry Token. Lady Godiva on horseback. Interesting	.40
25	GOLD. Roman Imperial. Focas, 602-610 A. D. Bust facing. Rev. Victory standing. Mounted in gold band with rim. Fine and interesting. Rare	$6.50
26	Spade Guinea, 1794. Good. Scarce. Only	6.25
27	Greek. Silver. 358-336 B. C. Tetradrachm. Thasos. Philip II. Head of Hercules. Rev. Youth on horse. Good. Rare. Over 2200 years old	3.50
28	Pergamum, 133-67 B. C. Tetradrachm. Chest from which issues serpent	2.20
29	Septimus Severus. Tetradrachm. Bust. Rev. Eagle. Very good	1.75
30	Marc Anthony and Octavia, 39-37 B. C. Head of Anthony and Octavia. Rev. Bacchus standong on cistus. Tetradrachm for Asia. Good. Rare	4.25

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VOLUME VII. NUMBER 12
WHOLE NUMBER 84

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An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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DECEMBER, 1916

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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Vol. VII. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, DECEMBER, 1916 No. 12

With the Editor

VOLUME VII—NUMBER 12.

With this number we complete Volume VII. In the first issue, January, 1908, I said in the announcement on the first page: "In this 'NUMISMATIC MONTHLY' I intend to give such coin news as may interest those interested in our own science, and especially to interest those who are not yet interested." This was our aim nine years ago, and is more than ever our aim today. We have made it our constant aim to give the young collector some help in his start—and to interest those who are not yet collectors, and if we may judge from the letters received from such, our efforts have been appreciated. We frankly admit we have not done all we wished to in this respect—but during the coming year it will, we hope, be possible to do more.

Do not look upon this merely as "Mehl's Numismatic Monthly," look upon it as YOUR MONTHLY. And if you do not find in its pages the help and information you need on the coins you are more particularly interested in, write us—we are always at your service.

While bearing the needs of the young collector in mind, we hope also to interest those more advanced, and for this purpose ask your help. To all our readers we say: If the Monthly has interested you during 1916, bring it to the attention of any friend of yours who is not at present a subscriber—or send us his address and we will forward a sample copy. That is all that is needed to make a new subscriber.

COIN EXHIBITS AND TOBY-JUGS.

One of our correspondents writing recently tells of having made an exhibit of one hundred and fifty coins at a Fall Fair in his State. This is as it should be. There are many who might make similar exhibits at Fall and Winter Fairs and other gatherings during the winter months. It is easier to reach the public at this season; they have more time to spare. Much might be done along these lines. Interest the public and your friends in your hobby. Far too many collectors adopt an apologetic tone when speaking of their hobby to non-collectors. Why is this? There is nothing to be ashamed of in collecting coins. A friend of ours said recently: "I cannot see anything in collecting

old coins—of what use are they?" Yet this same man has an amiable weakness. He collects jugs—and Toby-jugs at that! Now Toby-jugs, when you get the real century old Staffordshire pottery, are all right—but they are most uncomfortable things to carry about with you. It is impossible to put one in your vest pocket—but you can put a hundred dollars' worth of coins there without any trouble. One sentence in our correspondent's letter struck us especially: "This is my sixth year as a collector and it has been six years of happiness as far as coins go." Even a Toby-jug collector could not say more. May there be many years of such happiness before him.

WHAT COINS TO COLLECT.

A collector asks our advice as to what class of coins he should collect. As he does not mention the series of greatest interest to him, it is hard to advise. There are two things the wise buyer should alaways consider in his purchases. He should always consider the value of a coin to himself. Does it appeal to his fancy, is he particularly interested in the series to which the coin belongs? If so, it is worth more to him than to another not interested in that series. The American may be most interested in the early Colonials—the early silver and copper coinage of the U. S. Mint. The Britisher may value the magnificent series of Charles I, or the token coinage of the 17th and 18th centuries. The Canadian values his Side Views, Bouquet Sous, Blacksmith's, or Ships, Colonies and Commerce tokens. The German considers his Wild-man coins superior in numismatic interest to all others. All of these look with pitying eyes on the mistaken enthusiast who sees beauty only in the ancient coins of Greece and Rome.

There is a second thing to be considered—the value of the collection as a financial investment. The collector must not expect to be able to double his money on every coin he buys. Seldom will he do so. The large number of collectors dropped from the A. N. A. membership list every year for non-payment of dues, is due to the fact that most of them joined from mercenary motives. They expected to be able to make money out of coin collecting from the very start. They did not—and so fell by the roadside.

Of these two things to be considered—of the first, the collector should be the best judge. He knows—as no one else can—what is of the greatest interest to him. The second consideration is a matter of judgment. It may be good—or bad. It is possible the two views may conflict—but a collector should be prepared to pay something for his fancy. Surely the pleasure enjoyed in years of collecting—the many pleasant friendships formed, are worth a trifling cost.

PINE TREE SHILLINGS.

One of the questions that bobs up perennially is: "Who made the Pine Tree Shillings of Massachusetts?" The dies were made by Joseph Jenks, who was born at Hammersmith (a suburb of London), England. He died in 1683. A grandson bearing the same name was Governor of Rhode Island from 1727 to 1732. John Hull of Boston had the contract for making these coins, and

became very wealthy through it. It is said that on the occasion of the marriage of his daughter to Judge Samuel Sewall, her marriage portion consisted of Pine Tree Shillings equal in bulk to her own weight. This dowry would have amounted to about five hundred Pounds, a handsome sum in those days. Readers of Hawthorne's story of "The Great Carbuncle" will remember that the rich merchant, Master Ichabod Pigsnort, possessed an immense quantity of Pine Tree Shillings in which he was accustomed to roll twice a day, so as to enjoy his wealth to the full.

Undoubtedly, the Tree Money of "Masathusets in New England" is one of the most interesting series in the coinage of our country. Every American collector should have a specimen in his collection.

THE QUESTION BOX.

We trust that every young collector who gets "Our Monthly" will read the questions asked by our Illinois correspondent, and the answers given to same in the paper under above heading published in this issue. Such questions indicate an intelligent interest in collecting—a desire for information. We shall always be pleased to give any possible help to those desirous of it.

BRETON 1010. NO LABOUR—NO BREAD.

A Canadian correspondent informs us he has discovered a new variety of B. 1010. The No Labour—No Bread token. The difference is found in the figure of the plowman. It is especially noticeable in the space between the left arm and leg. This makes, he says, four varieties of this token. Three of the small ground (under the thrasher) and one of the large. The legend, "No Labour—No Bread," is certainly very appropriate at present. Bread is running a close race with coal, and it is hard to say which will win. Of course it is all blamed on the war.

THE LAST WORD FOR 1916.

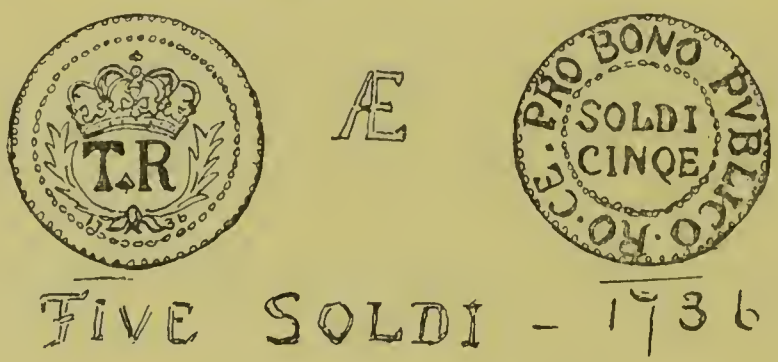
Recently the Y. M. C. A. in a city we know, started a three-day campaign to obtain three thousand new members for 1917. They were far too modest—by the end of the third day they had over forty-nine hundred applications in! Surely we can count on one hundred new members for the A. N. A. before 1917 gets very old. We do not want forty-nine hundred; they would crowd us too much; there would not be coins enough to go around. Besides, we should need to hold an auction sale every week—and our staff would object. But one hundred should be easy work distributed among so many. Another thing—your subscription expires with this number. Do not forget to renew. We are not too proud to receive subscriptions at any time, but we prefer them in December, or early in January. We have enjoyed your company during 1916. May we not count on the same pleasure for 1917? We like to make new friends, but we hate to part from old and tried ones. Meanwhile, to all our friends—both old and new—we extend our sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas, and a Prosperous and Happy New Year.

THE COINAGE OF KING THEODORE OF CORSICA (1736-1756)

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By J. ARMSTRONG FOSTER, F. R. N. S.

Theodore's son, Colonel Frederick, says that his father was "the son of Anthony von Neuhoff, descended from one of the most noble and illustrious houses in the county of La Marck. Anthony had displeased his relations in having married the daughter of a merchant of Viseu. This marriage drew upon him the contempt of all the nobility of the country, where they pique themselves (to use their own expression) on purity of blood, and where the nobles never contract alliances but with persons of their own rank. This 'undermateh' occasioned Anthony to quit Germany, and to go to France, where he was well received by the Duchess of Orleans." Anthony von Neuhoff is described as being a youth of "great parts," and of insinuating manners and vivacity—"a very favourable young man, with an air of grandeur in his behaviour, a very captivating manner of speaking, adroit in his exercises, knowing how to accommodate himself to all tempers. At Paris he had always kept



good company, though the expense of it agreed so little with his condition. His vices were those of a man of quality; and though the consequences of them obliged him to do mean things sometimes, yet these were visibly against his nature; and whenever by any lucky accident," adds the chronicler sarcastically, "he got into the possession of money, he took the first opportunity to indemnify those who had suffered by him. He had a singular passion for politics, and an unusual dexterity in discoursing on them."

Theodore's mother's name was Amelia; and her father, the linen merchant, died, we are told, within a year after her marriage, leaving her and the baron about 11,000 florins, which, with a company of foot and the command of a small fort in Alsace, was their whole provision. A certain Dutch envoy, who had known Theodore during some of his adventures, gave Monnet, the French writer, a very minute history of Theodore's father, the Westphalian baron, who seems to have been a soldier of fortune, and was killed at the assault on Namur, when in the Brandenburg service, though only the evening before he had obtained a colonel's commission in the Spanish army. His wife,

according to the same authority, was not the daughter of a linen merchant but of a Spanish inspector of fortifications in Flanders. Anthony left a son and daughter, the former of whom, Theodore, was born, it was said, at Cologne—other accounts give Metz and the little town of Altena in Westphalia respectively as his birthplace—about the year 1686, and his sponsor at baptism was the Dutch envoy, Van Bilderbeck. The boy, according to one version, was put to school at Düsseldorf, while another says he was first sent to the Jesuit College at Munster, and afterwards to Cologne. However, on his mother marrying again, he was taken by her to France, and placed in the Academy at Longpré. A Count Mortague, who was about the Court of the coarse old Duchess of Orleans, procured him the situation of page to the Regent, and for his sister that of lady-in-waiting to the refined and excellent princess herself. This was not unsuitable training for a future adventurer. Theodore had certainly "parts," and, as all adventurers should have, a natural gift for learning languages. Before he was 15 he spoke German, French, and Italian fluently.

Count Mortague fell in love with Theodore's mother, and placed the son among the pages of "Madame." Afterwards the Duke of Birrenfelds offered him a lieutenancy in an Alsace regiment then quartered at Strasburg. But "Baron Theodore" was disinclined to quit Paris; on which the Marquis de

TWO SOLDI . 1736 .

Courcelles, who had taken a fancy to him, gave him a commission in a cavalry regiment, the Fürstenberg horse, of which he himself was colonel; and as Theodore's friend, the count, was son of the Marquis d'Augean, the young adventurer had considerable influence. The friends, however, soon quarreled Another account describes Theodore as busy as a courtier, and an inveterate gambler—which forced him to fly from Paris "criblé de dettes." He then repaired to Sweden, "drawn thither by a passionate admiration for Charles XII," and a wish to have some share in his exploits. While Theodore was in Sweden, he attracted the notice of Görtz, the Swedish minister, who saw in him the pliant qualities of an emissary, and used him in several intricate negotiations. One of these missions led Theodore to Spain; and there can be little question that he was used to negotiate the strange plot between Görtz and Alberoni for placing the Pretender on the throne of England. Indeed, this scheme, in various shapes, was the other great episode of his life, and spread over many years. It would make this article too long to recount the many ups-and-downs of our adventurer, so I will try and be as brief as possible. Theodore appeared in Madrid. There he worked himself into high favor, and succeeded in marrying one of the queen's maids-of-honor—a Lady Sarsfield, daughter to "Lord" Kilmallock, one of the Irish Jacobite exiles. Theodore

was obliged to leave Spain; he forsook his wife, and, it is said, made his escape with all his wife's jewels. He then turns up at Paris, next Amsterdam, and about the year 1727 in London. Florence became the next scene. From the Italian court Theodore was ever looking wistfully across at the little island, Corsica. As he thought of other games played with success, and of the men he had known who had played them, a scheme occurred to him that was not so far-fetched. He had already plotted for a throne with Görtz and the Pretender; he had seen Sipperda and Law rise to seats on the step only lower than a throne. Now here was a chance for himself. To cut a long story short, Corsica during a revolt was erected into a kingdom under Theodore Neuhoff, its first and only King, 1736. King Theodore came to England, was imprisoned in the King's Bench prison for debt, and long subsisted on private friends, but released; he gave in his schedule the Kingdom of Corsica to his creditors, and died at No. 5 Little Chapel Street, Soho, London, at his tailor's lodging. Theodore was laid in a mean corner in the burying ground of St. Anne's, Soho, "among the paupers." What a grave for an adventurer! Yet not out of the game of chances which the adventurer plays. Horace Waples set up a monument to him in the outside wall of the church, consisting of a tablet, surmounted by a crown, taken from one of his majesty's coins, and having the following inscription:

Near this place is interred
THEODORE, KING OF CORSICA,
who died in this parish December 11th. 1756,
Immediately after leaving the King's Bench Prison
By the benefit of the Act of Insolvency;
In consequence of which he registered
His Kingdom of Corsica
For the use of his creditors.

The Earl of Oxford wrote the following epitaph, for a tablet near his grave in St. Anne's Church, Dean Street, Soho:

The grave, great teacher, to a level brings
Heroes and beggars, galley-slaves and kings.
But Theodore his moral learn'd ere dead;
Fate pour'd its lessons on his **living** head,
Bestow'd a Kingdom, and deny'd him bread.

HIS COINAGE.

King Theodore exercised a most tangible and satisfactory proof of royal prerogative, namely, that of coining money, and struck, or caused to be struck a number of silver or brass copper pieces. Theodore's coins were of the class known to the French as pièces of nécessité, and formed a pendant to King James's Irish gun-money. They were rather clumsy performances, and the silver specimens were very scanty indeed. But the greed of collectors all over the world was greatly excited; so they were eagerly bought up at four sequins apiece for cabinets; and when the supply failed, a spurious mint was set to work at Naples. The soldiers who were paid in the new currency grumbled a good deal, and some women refused it altogether in payment for their goods. As they not only used bad language, but were riotous as well, the King came on the scene as usual, and caused them to be put in prison, which resolute act had a wholesome effect on the community. It was Costa who arranged for

the new coinage. He adopted a ready but characteristic method for securing a competent artist, sending for a person from Rostino, who had learned the business while engaged in fabricating counterfeit Genoese coins, "and was," adds Costa, "not ashamed to own it." From another district he secured a practical smith, known by the nickname of "Sevenbrains" from his cleverness. Giaffori became master of the mint, and went through the neighboring parishes collecting old copper, braziers and other vessels. The smith produced a number of brass or copper coins of 2 and 5 Soldi value, having on the obverse the initials T. R. surmounted by a crown and dated 1736, and on the reverse, "Pro bono publico: Requi Corsicæ." The smith's coadjutor undertook the silver coinage, but at first only produced a single specimen. Theodore in his edict of November 1, 1737, speaks of 500 silver crowns that he had coined with the arms of the Kingdom on one side and the figure of the Virgin on the other, accompanied by this legend: "Monstra te esse Matrem" (Shew thyself to be a mother). In the "Works of Lord Oxford" (Vol. I, p. 155), an engraving is given of a damaged specimen of one of Theodore's 5 Soldi pieces. Gregorovius, in his work on Corsica, speaks of some other coins, having on the obverse a bust of Theodore surrounded by the words: "Theodorous D. G. unanimi consensu electus Rex et Prineeps regni Corsiei," and on the reverse the motto: "Prudentia et Industria vincitur Tyrannis." The full story of Theodore of Corsica reads almost like a fairy tale. There is nothing more exciting in its alternations—the hopes and fears—the energies exerted—the persuasion of others—the short-lived dreams—the glitter and trappings of actual royalty—and the close in the debtor's prison.

THE REASON WHY.

A gentleman was riding on one of the coaches in the Highlands of Scotland, when the driver said to him: "I've had a coin guv to me today 200 years old. Did you ever see a coin 200 years old?"

"Oh, yes," was the reply, "I have one myself 2000 years old."

"Ah," said the driver, "have you?" And he spoke no more during the rest of the journey.

When the coach arrived at its destination the driver came up to the gentleman with an intensely self-satisfied air and said:

"I told you as we came along that I had a coin 200 years old."

"Yes."

"And you said to me that you had one 2000 years old."

"Yes, so I have."

"Now, you be tellin' an untruth."

"What do you mean by that?"

"What do I mean? Why—it's only 1916 now."

—London Answers.

TO RECAST HALF DOLLARS

One million fifty-cent pieces were recently shipped from the federal subtreasury at St. Louis to the Denver mint, where they will be recast into half dollars of a different design.

THE QUESTION BOX

Some Questions Asked, the Answers to Which Will Interest the Young Collector.

We have received a most interesting letter from an Illinois correspondent. After saying some very nice things about the "Monthly," he proceeds to ask a series of questions on various coins. He suggests that many other collectors would find the answers of great value, as he has been asked these by several of his friends. The more advanced collector may skip this paper—it is not written for him. Scattered about our great Republic are many collectors, not fortunate enough to know more advanced ones who would gladly give the information desired by our correspondent. For the benefit of such we give the questions asked, and the answers to same.

QUESTION I. What happened to all the 1804 dollars if so many were coined—and is the story about their being sunk on the way to China true? If so, why did the total coinage go to China?

ANSWER. It would require many pages to tell you all about the 1804 dollar. We shall publish shortly a paper of some length treating of this subject. The Report of the U. S. Mint shows that there were 19,570 dollars coined in 1804. Though so many were coined, the dies used were those of former years and bore such dates. No dollars were coined in 1804 bearing that date. It was not until 1842 that a dollar having this date became known to collectors. The dies of the "1804" dollar were probably cut between the years 1836 and 1842.

QUESTION II. Can I spend a coin dated as far back as 1802, and would anyone be obliged to accept it?

ANSWER. United States coins of all values and metals (except the Trade Dollars) from 1793 to present date are always redeemable at face value at any Sub-Treasury or Treasury of the United States, and are legal tender always. This also applies to United States fractional currency and Government bills in paper—even though worn, torn, or burnt (in part).

QUESTION III. Does the 1804 dollar, or other coins of that date, bear the portrait of Martha Washington?

ANSWER. No. The bust of Liberty first appearing in 1793 on the cent and half-cent, and with changes later on the silver coins, is probably a copy of the bust on the medal made by the celebrated French artist Dupré, to commemorate the victories of Saratoga and Yorktown. General George Washington furnished some of his private silver plate for coins (patterns) struck in 1792, on which appears Martha Washington's head—the half and one disme, value five and ten cents.

QUESTION IV. Who designed the Fugio cent? The Indian head cent? The Buffalo nickel? The Lincoln cent? Whose name do the letters V. D. B. on this cent stand for, and is he in prison for putting his initials on the cents, as reported?

ANSWER. The Fugio cent—like the Continental dollar—bears the initials of the engraver"E. G. Fecit." Who "E. G." was it is impossible to say. It has been said that the initials stand for Ephraim Getz, but there is no sure authority for this claim. This is often called the "Franklin" cent, because it bears the motto of the great Benjamin—"MIND YOUR BUSINESS." But he was not the designer.

James B. Longacre, an engraver at the U. S. mint, designed the Indian head, which appeared first in 1859. It bears his mark, an L, on the head band.

The Buffalo nickel bears, under the last figure of date, a small "F," for the designer, James Earl Fraser of New York City.

The letters "V. D. B." on the Lincoln cent are the initials of the designer and engraver, Victor D. Brenner. He never was imprisoned for this. Why should he be? As far back as B. C. 400 we find the name of the engraver on the coins he designed. Take away from him this privilege and you deprive him of his most valued reward. The dollars of 1836 have "C. GOBRECHT" on them, and the Lafayette-Washington dollars have "Bartlett" in script at the base of the equestrian statue. The silver dollar coined from 1878 to 1904 has an "M" on both obverse and reverse for the designer, George T. Morgan, the mint engraver. Our present type of silver coins have a "B" on the bottom of the neck of Liberty, directly above the first figure of date. This is the mark of Charles E. Barber, the mint's chief engraver. This "B" is also found on the Columbian half-dollar.

QUESTION V. Is it true that many of the early Roman and Greek coins, as well as the early Colonials, are counterfeits—and how are you to know when you get one?

ANSWER. Undoubtedly there are a certain number of counterfeit coins, but only those of great value and rarity suffer in this respect. Our own dimes are counterfeited, and every one handles dimes. With our own rare Colonials, and more especially the ancient Greek and Roman coins, the market is more limited. The counterfeiter would have too much trouble to dispose of them; it would not pay him. Experience alone will enable you to distinguish between the false and the genuine. Buy your coins only from reputable dealers—they guarantee all coins sold by them as genuine, and their guarantee holds good indefinitely.

AN OLD LONDON, ENGLAND, CHECK

The Institute of Bankers, in London, have just acquired what is believed to be the oldest check in existence. Dated 1675, and drawn on "Mr. Thomas ffowles, Gouldsmith, at his shop betweene the two Temple gates, Fleetstreete," it reads: "I desire you to pay unto Mr Samuell Howard or order upon receipt hereof the sume of nine pounds thirteene shillings and sixe pence and place it to the account of Yr. servant, Edmond Warcupp."

Prices Realized at the B. Max Mehl Sale of November 7th

1795 $10.00 Gold. About fine	$20.00
1796 $10.00 Gold. Fine	22.00
1795 $5.00 Gold. Very good	16.00
1879 $4.00 Gold. Brilliant proof	68.00
1802 $2.50 Gold. Very good	10.00
1854 $20.00 Gold. Kellogg & Co. Very fine	24.25
1860 $10.00 Gold. View of Pike's Peak. Ex. Fine	32.00
1861 $10.00 Gold. Very good	15.00
1795 Silver Dollar. Very good	3.00
1796 Silver Dollar. Very good	3.10
1862 $10.00 U. S. Currency. Portrait of Lincoln. V. Fine	13.00
1861 $20.00 Colorado. Bronze, gold plated	15.00
1879 $4.00 Gold. Fine	50.00
1836 Silver Dollar. Very fine	14.00
1852 Ring Dollar. Copper nickel proof	10.00
1871 Dollar. Copper Pattern	6.00
1878 $1.00 Goloid Metric	5.00
1879 Goloid Metric Dollar. Proof	5.00
1874 20c. Copper Pattern	5.00
1869 10c Pattern. Plain edge. Brilliant proof	6.00
1870 Half Dime. Pattern. Proof	5.00
1866 Five Cents. Pattern. Nickel. Proof	8.50
1882 Five Cents. Aluminum. Proof	12.00
1856 Flying Eagle Cent. Copper nickel	7.50
1858 Small Flying Eagle. Brilliant proof	8.25
1858 Indian Head. Brilliant proof, Obv. Dulled Rev.	5.25
1789 Washington Cent in silver. Very good	7.00
1787 Immunis Columbia Cent. Fine for piece	9.00
1907 $10.00 Gold. Periods. Uncirculated	20.50
1845 $2.50 Gold. New Orleans Mint. Fine	25.00
1860 $6.00 Gold. Clark & Co. Very fine, sharp	12.00
Carolina $5.00 Gold. 134 G. 21 Carats. About Unc.	42.00
1870 California gold dollar. Round. About Unc.	10.00
Rare Ancient Gold. Greece Gold Stater. Ex. Fine	31.00
Macedonia. Alexander the Great. Gold Stater. Ex. Fine	25.00
Rome. Tiberius. Gold Aureus. Ex. Fine	25.00
Rare English Gold Coins. Edw. III. Gold Noble. V. Good	10.00
Edw. III. Ecu d'Or for Aquitaine. Fine	10.00
Henry V. Noble. Fine	9.00
Richard III. Angel	12.00
Henry VIII. Angel of first coinage. Very fine	7.75
Elizabeth. Gold Angel. Very fine	8.50
James I. Gold Laurel. Practically uncirculated	8.25
George II. Double Guinea. Extremely fine	12.00
Edw. VII. 1902. Complete set of specimen coins of Royal Mint	51.00

George V. 1911. Complete set of proof coins..... 54.00
Complete set Panama-Pacific Exposition Coins. 1915 .....200.00
1656 Commonwealth Crown. Silver. Very fine 8.50
1658 Oliver Cromwell Half Crown. Practically Unc. 7.75

Complete list of the Sale may be had for only 50c.

Next sale is now in preparation. Some fine Gold, Silver and Paper Money.

Catalogues free to auction buyers. Address B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

The New Dimes and New McKinley Gold Dollars

THE NEW DIME
(Illustration Enlarged)

After considerable delay, the new dimes have at last appeared, and in our opinion, are quite an improvement on the old issue and equal in artistic beauty to any previous issue of dimes.

As is usual with all new issues, rumors circulate about them being "recalled" and about gold being inadvertently mixed with the silver and other similar fables.

According to the information we have, there will be ample new dimes issued to be passed around among everyone who has an old dime to exchange for a new one. The Philadelphia Mint alone coined three million pieces during the month of October. They are also being coined at the San Francisco Mint, but not yet at the Denver nor New Orleans Mints. The New Orleans Mint suspended coinage operation five years ago and is now conducted as an Assay office.

Those wishing the new dimes may obtain them from the United States Treasury, Washington, D. C., and from the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco. When ordering the dimes, be sure to remit by postal money order or cash and always include registration fee.

We have a few hundred of the dimes on hand and will be pleased to supply them to our readers at face value, plus postage and registration.

THE NEW McKINLEY GOLD DOLLARS

THE NEW McKINLEY MEMORIAL GOLD DOLLAR
(Illustration Enlarged)

Another new issue which has just appeared, and which we have been looking forward to with considerable interest, is the new McKinley Memorial gold dollars. The purpose of its issue is plainly described in the advertisement in this issue by the McKinley Memorial Association.

While the coin is a legal tender, as all other souvenir coins issued under act of Congress, but in artistic design it hardly equals the McKinley gold dollars of 1903, but we are sure they will be welcome by all collectors.

Those new dimes are lovely, but it is a pity they did not come along in the good old days, when a dime would buy ten cents' worth of anything.—Chicago Daily News.

The new dimes are in great demand—so are the old ones.—Chicago Herald.

MINT RECORD FOR OCTOBER

The mint at Philadelphia has for the month of October broken all previous records. During that month 45,231,413 coins were struck—more than four times as many as for any average year during the last five years. The average yearly production has been around 15,000,000 pieces.

Among the money coined in October was 10,013 McKinley Commemorative Gold Dollars, 6,000 Dimes of the old type and 3,000,000 of the new type, 9,657,200 Five-Cent pieces and 25,014,200 One-Cent pieces.

Besides these there were coined for the Republic of Salvador 1,500,000 5 Centavo pieces and for the Republic of Peru 50,000 pieces of Gold Pound Blake.

THE REASON FOR SAM

He—Sam is going to marry the rich widow Brown.

She—Whaddye mean? Rich? Why she was married to that poor numismatist.

He—Sure, I know. And when he died he left her all kinds of money.

—Penn State Froth.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held at the Park Avenue Hotel, Friday evening, November 10, 1916, President Boyd presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Beatty, Beesley, Belden, Boyd, Burke, Butler, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Kohler, Nangle, Schulmann, Smith, Swanson, Wood, Wormser, and as guests Mr. T. T. Belote, Curator of the United States National Museum at Washington; Mr. Jules Polak of Amsterdam, Holland; and Mr. H. McGillavry of Java, Dutch Indies.

After the roll call, the minutes were read and corrected.

Mr. Proskey offered the report of the Nominating Committee for officers for the year 1917, putting in nomination the following candidates:

For President: F. C. C. Boyd.

For Vice President: Albert R. Frey.

For Secretary and Treasurer: Moritz Wormser.

For Executive Committee: Dr. Valentine, (Chairman).; Elliott Smith, Thomas Elder, J. M. Swanson.

For Publication Committee: Dr. Valentine, (Chairman); Howland Wood, Dudley Butler.

For Membership Committee: Daniel Kennedy, (Chairman); Wayte Raymond, J. W. Scott, R. Kohler, D. Proskey.

For Medallic Art Committee: J. M. Swanson, E. Beesley, J. de Lagerberg, E. T. Newell, A. G. Heaton.

The committee was discharged with a vote of thanks for its services.

The Treasurer made a report. The Secretary reported the receipt of one magazine; a communication from Louis Godick; the announcement of a new member, being Miss Danna Florence Mehl, arrived on October 4, 1916, and a letter from Mr. de Lagerberg regretting his inability to be at the meeting and therefore to deliver the talk which the Executive Committee had announced.

The President read an invitation addressed to the Numismatic Club to attend the wedding of Miss Sallie Marks, the "Assistant Secretary," and an appropriation was made for a suitable wedding gift.

Mr. Smith referred to our pleasure at having present with us the guests of the evening and extended to them a welcome.

The Membership Committee favorably reported upon the candidacy as member of Mr. J. Sanford Saltus, and the Secretary was unanimously empowered to cast one vote for his election.

It was proposed hereafter to change the meeting place to the Hotel Marlborough, and in order to aid a decision of the club, it was voted to have a special meeting in two weeks from tonight, on the 24th instant, at the Hotel Marlborough.

The Executive Committee also put before the members a communication from the Aldine Club offering its rooms for meetings.

A resolution was offered for the purpose of amending the by-laws, expunging the provisions for a Medallic Art Committee and a Publicity Committee, and this resolution is to be voted on at the next meeting.

After an examination of the many exhibits of the evening, the business meeting was reopened and the President welcomed Mr. Schulmann and the guests of the evening, all of whom responded to the welcome.

Mr. Schulmann expressed his pleasure at being with us. In regard to the effect of the European War upon Numismatics, he explained that a license of the British Government would have been necessary for him to bring over German coins or medals. He referred to the very complete exhibit of war medals at the American Numismatic Society. He also expressed the opinion that after the war coins would be higher in value.

Mr. McGillavry told the Club about Java and some Numismatic business experiences there.

Mr. Belote told us of the collection of coins and medals which the National Museum at Washington owns, and of the desirability of adding to its contents, stating that donations would be received with pleasure.

Mr. Polak told of his pleasant experiences in America, his personal business reasons for visiting our country and how interesting he had found methods of America's wealth.

The evening ended in an animated disussion produced by Mr. Polak's remarks, and was one of the most successful recently enjoyed by the Club.

The exhibition subject of the evening was "Medals of Benjamin Franklin," and the exhibits shown by members upon this subject were as follows:

By Mr. Proskey: The usual large number (63) of medals and placques showing portraits of Benjamin Franklin, as follows:

One of Nini's portraits for whom Franklin sat in 1777 in Paris; five sizes, including the fur cap series. From these two types of portraits practically all of the best portraits of Franklin on American medals and tokens have been copied. One medal in Berlin Iron, one-half length bust. One large oval placque resembling that by Gobrecht used on the 1824 Franklin Institute medal, of which latter the exhibit contained three varieties, one in silver, also the Franklin Institute Fur Cap Medal. The Boston School Franklin Medal awarded in 1803, silver. Also a Boston Medal in silver by Mitchell, 1790, "gift of Franklin." Wright & Bale large card fur cap; also sample profile bust. Small similar token by Bale with blank reverse; also same obverse with Hooks' card as reverse. White metal Wright & Bale Franklin School Medal; also one afterwards signed by Stimson, "Gift of Franklin, 1788." Lovett's cards, one with Washington reverse, one blank in brass. Various small tokens—Brimelow's, Broas', Whitney Bros., Zahm, Beirn, and others, used as money during the Civil War period. Franklin & Montyon, 3 die varieties. Lovett's "Rochester Literary Association," with "House of Temperance" reverse, and one "Awarded to." French busts by Godel of the Durand series, four varieties, including one silver, two without signatures, same obverse with Masonic "Lodge of the Nine Sisters," issued in 1829 by Pingret; two by Caque of the French Mint, four by Dupre with two types of reverse. The Ben'n Franklin LL. D. Medal. Syracuse Franklin Institute by Becker, white metal, very unusual. Two medals by Reich, 1776 and 1783 reverses, one with busts of Franklin and Washington jugate, with 1783 eagle over the American Section

of the globe. Pewter medal, one-half length bust, "Mort A Philadelphie en 1790," blank reverse. Only one known.

By Mr. F. C. C. Boyd: A large number of Franklin medals and tokens, among them a splendid specimen of the very rare Wright & Bale fur cap token.

Other exhibits of the evening not in relation to this subject were as follows:

Mr. Beesley: A Queen Elizabeth "Broad." A series of twelve French, English, Belgian and Serbian medals issued to commemorate the present European War.

Mr. Schulmann: Transylvania, Stephen Bocskai, 1605, 10 Ducats. Ortenburg, John Wielmann, big merchant at Venice, who bought the title of Knight of Venice for 20,000 Doppia, 1631; 5 Ducats. Only two known.

Syracuse, 405-345 B. C. 100 Litra. Head of Goddess L. Rev., Hercules strangling the lion.

Syracuse, 405-345 B. C. 50 Litra. Male head L. Rev., Horse running.
Epirus, Pyrrhus, Tetradrachm.
Syracuse, Tetradrachm.
Bactria, Tetradrachm of Eucratides.
Judea, Tetradrachm of Simon Barkochba.
Aenue, Tetradrachm. Head facing.

All of these antique coins were of splendid style and in extremely fine condition.

Dr. Burke: An original bronze medal upon Van Tromp's naval victory; the same upon DeRuyter's victory. Original bronze gilt medal upon Nelson and the Victory of the Nile; original bronze medals upon Christina of Sweden, 1680, and upon Napoleon; a beautiful large copper coin of Syracuse showing the head of Apollo of about 350 B. C.

Mr. Wood: City of Ghent, Belgium, Necessity Money, brass on one side, copper on the other, 1 Franc and 2 Francs; issued in 1915, redeemable in 1919.

Mr. Wormser exhibited a number of interesting medals from his collection, also the following very rare coins:

Ost Friedland, Double Thaler Square, Enno 1615.
Ost Friedland, Thaler 1685, Christine Charlotte.
Sachsen, Klippe Thaler of ½ Thaler die, 1614.
Brunswick, Augustus 4 Thaler, 1666, 88th birthday.
Brunswick, 5 Thaler Henry Julius, 1609.
Brunswick, 6 Thaler Frederick Ulrich, 1620.
Neufchatel, Alexander Berthier, Pattern 5 Franc.

By Mr. Proskey: Several antique coins with errors: Small bronze of FLORIANUS, 276 A. D., "ELORIANUS." The Denarius of Trebonianus, 254 A. D., with AQVTAS instead of AQVITAS. Small bronze of Phocas and Heraclius in fine condition.

MORITZ WORMSER,
Secretary.

The National McKinley Birthplace Memorial Association

Youngstown, Ohio

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The Trustees of The National McKinley Birthplace Memorial Association take this method of informing the subscribers to the Building and Endowment fund, the general public and others interested, that the McKinley SOUVENIR GOLD DOLLARS, authorized by Act of Congress February 23rd, 1916, are now available. A copy of this Act is printed in full below.

At a meeting of the Trustees and Building Committee, the price for the Souvenir Dollars was fixed at Three Dollars for single specimens and up to ten, and for ten or more the price was fixed at Two Dollars and Fifty Cents each. The prices named are without discount and include the expense of shipment by registered mail.

We are particularly anxious that the Banks, both State and National, and Numismatists aid us in disposing of these coins. Remittances may be made to

J. G. BUTLER, JR., President,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Copy of Act—

An Act for the coinage of a McKinley Souvenir Gold Dollar, in commemoration of the erection of a memorial to William McKinley, late President of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purpose of aiding in defraying the cost of completing in a suitable manner the work of erecting a memorial in the city of Niles, Ohio, to William McKinley, late President of the United States of America, the Secretary of the Treasury shall be and is hereby authorized to purchase in the market so much gold bullion as may be necessary for the purpose herein provided for, from which there shall be coined at the United States Mint, Philadelphia, standard gold dollars of the legal weight and fineness, to the number of not exceeding one hundred thousand pieces, to be known as the McKinley souvenir dollars, struck in commemoration of the erection of a memorial to William McKinley, late President of the United States of America, in the city of Niles, Ohio, his birthplace, the devices and designs upon which coins shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury; and all provisions of law relative to the coinage and legal-tender quality of the standard gold dollar shall be applicable to the coins issued under this Act, and when so coined said souvenir dollars shall be delivered, in suitable parcels, at par, and without cost to the United States, to the National McKinley Birthplace Memorial Association and the dies shall be destroyed.

CHAMP CLARK,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THOS. R. MARSHALL,
Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

Approved—
23rd of February, 1916.
WOODROW WILSON.

Please mention the Numismatic Monthly when answering this Advertisement.

Numismatic Oddities For Sale Cheap

RUSSIA, Peter I. (1698) Silver Kopeks. Stamped from silver wire; all odd-shaped. Rare. Lot of 20 pieces, for..... $4.40

LOMBARDY, Provisional Necessity piece, 5 lire, 1848, MADE INTO A BOX. Rare. A skillful piece of work requiring two coins. Would cost at least $5.00 to make. Price..... 3.50

Papal. See Vacant. 1700. Large Silver Scudo. Very good. Rare 3.25

Papal, Bulla or Lead Seal. Heads of Saints Peter and Paul; a cross between them. Reverse, name of Pope. Larger than silver dollar. Rare and interesting. (200 to 400 years old). Recent auction record $2.00. Price..... 1.20

Centennial Silver "Dollar" 1876. In original plush case made into booklet form. Perfect. (Record $12.)..... 7.50

SILVER INGOT, or Bar. 4.9 Oz. Size 52x28x10 mm. Stamped showing amounts of gold and silver. Rare..... 15.00

Gold Spade Guinea. Good 6.25

Roman Gold Coin, about 1400 years old, size of $3. gold piece. with loop and gold band; suitable for charm; interesting.... 6.50

Roman and Byzantine bronze coins, mostly small, each in separate envelope fully described. Seventeen all different, one with portrait of Christ. Quite a little collection. The entire lot 3.25

Roman Imperial, including a large Tiberius. All fully described. Seven, all different. The lot only..... 1.40

OF COURSE,—SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY REFUNDED.

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

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Just to See How Many I Will Sell

I Offer Under Retail Prices

1815 Half Dollar. A rare coin, but I have a few ---all good and better, each **$2.40**

1836 Half Dollar. With Milled Edge, another scarce coin, and cheap at **$2.00**

1857 Silver Token. New York Wood's Minstrels. Size of Quarter ..... **.40**

Rare $50 Gold Piece

FOR SALE CHEAP

Augustus Humbert, 1852, 887 Thous.
Variety With Small Date

A variety with a high auction record. Outside of the usual few nicks and small dents, it is certainly very good—above the average in condition and much below the average in price.

ONLY $125.00

German War Money

THE NEW IRON COINS

5 and 10 Pfenig Pieces

THE SET 25c

Mexico, Villa 5c Pieces

MADE FROM

"Confiscated" Trolley Wire

EACH 25c

New McKinley Gold Dollar

JUST ISSUED

Portrait of McKinley. Reverse, View of McKinley Memorial.

Price, Each $3.00

Postage and Reg. Extra

I have a sufficient quantity on hand now to fill all orders promptly

B. MAX MEHL

Numismatist

FORT WORTH - TEXAS